

# **Best Practices to Follow When Hosting a Recruit on Your Campus...**

Below are some ideas for Student-Athlete Advisory Committee members and all other student-athletes who are looking for a little assistance when faced with the challenge and honor of hosting a prospective student-athlete during the recruiting process. We all remember when we were making the decision about which college or university was right for us and so we as a National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee have put together a list of items that we thought would be helpful reminders, tips and tools for you and your campus as you are now assisting someone else faced with that same difficult decision. You want the best person for your team, and you know that there is a best team for each person. If you have any to add to this list – please let us know! We would absolutely love to see this grow and continue to help others out there who are new to the recruit hosting process! You may contact the chair of the national student-athlete advisory committee.....

## **A few rules to remember:**

- You must be enrolled as a full time student and you must be eligible to practice with the team in order to serve as a student host
- Only the student-host is permitted to be provided money (maximum of \$30 per day) with which to entertain the prospect(s), the prospect's parents, or spouse, and the student-host. It is permissible for other student-athletes and/or students to assist with hosting the prospect, but they must pay for their own entertainment.
- NEVER give entertainment money directly to the prospect, the prospect's parents or spouse. In addition, you may never purchase any gift of value with this money [e.g., bookstore items]

## **A few things you might do:**

- Take the prospect with you to a class on campus (note: alert professors ahead of time that there will be guests in their classroom)
- Introduce the prospect to faculty and/or staff within the degree program (major) of their choice. Encourage the prospect to ask questions about the program and bring their high school transcript and test scores for evaluation of their potential placement in the program during this meeting
- Take the prospect on a tour of campus. When touring campus, be sure to include the places that student-athletes spend most of their time so they can get a feel for what their daily life will be like should they choose your school.
- Set aside time for the prospect to meet with members of your team to ask questions (note: this may be a formal question and answer meeting or could take place during a social excursion)
- Introduce the prospect to athletic administrators so they know who is working on their behalf in the athletics department

- Set up a meeting with the compliance officer and/or the athletic academic advisor to discuss the next steps as an incoming student-athlete
- Find out the calendar of campus events (festivals, movies, comedy nights, dance shows, game shows, etc) from your student-union and plan an outing to one of those events with the prospect and your teammates
- Attend any one (or several if there is time!) of the campus athletic events with the prospect and your teammates. Let the prospect know how you support your athletic mates
- Find out what cultural opportunities are unique to your city and campus (you may ask your coach, SAAC liaison, Compliance Officer, CHAMPS/Life Skills Coordinator, Student-Union office, Dean of Students office, Art Department, Theater Department, RA, Housing Office, Admissions Office, local newspaper, etc.) and take the prospect to one of those events or places (beach, sailing, raceway, hiking, shopping)
- Have a team dinner at a teammate's home
- Play board games
- Most importantly: Be honest when it comes to your team, your school and what they are really like.

### **A few larger projects that might be helpful for every team:**

- Put together a listing of local movie theaters in your area and hand it out to all sport teams
- Put together a listing of local food places where students and, as importantly, student-athletes hang out in your area and hand it out to all sport teams
- Put together a listing of fun, inexpensive excursion places in your area and hand it out to all sport teams (e.g. bowling alley, miniature golf, arcade, laser tag, museums, open mic music clubs for 18 and over, paint ball)
- Create a scavenger hunt for prospects during large recruit weekends that includes places you showed them on the campus tour, athletic facilities, names of coaches, etc