

# RECRUITING TIP OF THE WEEK



**Recruiting Words of Wisdom for Boys Athletes**  
From AVCA member Men's Collegiate Coaches

“It’s important to be honest with the coaches you deal with. If you’re not interested in a college/university, tell the coach. We are adults and understand that not every institution is for everyone. At the same time, when you are interested in a program try to keep up regular communication with the coach to update them on your tournaments and HS matches. I am as interested in the person as I am the volleyball player.”

*Jeffrey Lipton – Head Men’s Volleyball Coach,  
Culver-Stockton College, MO (NAIA)*



Try to remember that a coach's offer is an honest representation of their desire to have you attend that institution. If you are not interested in any specific offer, please let that coach know. The other side of the coin is that coaches reserve the right to rescind their offers at any time.

“Recruits should search to find their best fit, not just cheapest or closest to home. Go where you are wanted, and where you fit in. Here at SMWC, we look to find great people that love playing volleyball and are committed students. Everyone has skill, but passion and commitment are what we value most.”

*Ian Harris – Head Men’s Volleyball Coach,  
Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, IN (NAIA)*

Reach out to the coaches and let them know where you are competing during the year. The Men's Volleyball season starts in January and ends at the beginning of May. You never know when a coach will make an event. Do the same during your high school season.



“Athletes should be honest, responsive, and proactive. Stay on top of communication, send updated videos, keep coaches in the loop on grades, schedules, and interest. I look for athletes who compete hard, handle adversity, and show they can be coached. Good teammates, good students, and people who want to grow in a program always stand out.”

*Andrew Lee – Head Men’s Volleyball Coach,  
Widener University, PA (NCAA DIII)*



Constant communication is a two-way street. Email, text, call, stay in the game always.

Try not to burn any bridges, you never know how things are going to turn out.

“Your first email should tell me as much about you as possible, have transcripts and SAT/ACT scores, volleyball accolades, and some highlight film. Getting recruited to MIT – Baseline academic standards: Minimum GPA 3.85 unweighted, Minimum 1500 Sat score (Match 760+), and Minimum 34 ACT Score (Match 35).”

*Todd Elwell – Head Men’s Volleyball Coach,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MA (NCAA DIII)*

When you go for an on-campus visit, make sure to ask lots of questions. When you end your visit, you should have lots of information to help make decisions. Additionally, always send a thank you note after a visit.



“Talk to as many schools and coaches as possible. Create a list of criteria that are important to you when deciding on the school of your choice. Make sure you are comfortable and confident once you have made your decision.”

*Noah Ray – Head Men’s Volleyball Coach,  
Eureka College, IL (NCAA DIII)*



Do not be afraid to let the coach know what you think. The interview process for college/university is a two-way street, as we collect information on you, we are aware that you are taking notes as well.

“Make sure you do some research on the College/University program academically and volleyball wise you are interested in. Be open throughout the recruiting process as to your continued interest, or if you are no longer interested in the program. Do yourself and the coach a favor and let them know so they can move forward with their recruiting plans, it’s all about mutual respect. Personally, I am looking for go getters, individuals looking to make the most out of their four years on and off the court.”

*Jordan Robinson – Head Men’s Volleyball Coach,  
Arcadia University, PA (NCAA DIII)*

When you send a letter to a coach, make sure that you have checked the spelling and who you are sending the letter to. Coaches do not want to receive form letters addressed to someone else.



“Don't let a college coach rush you into committing when you're not ready to make a final decision. Coaches are almost always looking to add players, either due to injuries or players becoming academically ineligible, etc. There will be opportunities. On the other hand, if you find the school that is the right fit for you, stop playing the game and just commit. Also, pay attention to roster sizes as this will play a significant role in your overall student athlete experience.”

*Mike Shea – Head Men's Volleyball Coach,  
Truett McConnell University, GA (NAIA)*



Make sure that you are always ready for a recruiting phone or zoom call. Have some questions ready to ask. Show your interest in the College/University and the volleyball program even if it's not your first choice.

"When it comes to the recruiting process, we are looking for prospective student athletes that not only elevate the level of play in our gym but also fit the standard of culture that we look to uphold. During the process, we look at personal character and what you bring to the program from an off-the-court perspective. When you are being recruited by a school, please ask any, and all, questions that you have to get a better understanding of the program and what they have to offer for your future."

*Christian Taylor – Director of Men's and Women's Volleyball,  
Randolph-Macon College, VA (NCAA DIII)*



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