



College Recruiting Packet

SA United Soccer Club. PO Box 17626, San Antonio, Texas 78217.

Tel: 210 599 4622 e-mail: saunitedsoccer@yahoo.com



PLAYER RESUME

(Please make sure you attach picture)

Personal Information

Name:	D.O.B	/ /	Weight
height			
Address:	City:	State:	
Zip:			
Preferred Major to study in college?		NCAA P.I.N	
Contact #1:	Email:		
Parents:	Contact #:		

Education/Grades

High School:	Date of Graduation:		
Address:	City:	State:	
Zip:			
Overall GPA:	SAT/ACT score:		
Extracurricular Activities (student government, Latin club, etc.)			

Playing Experience and achievements

Position (preferred)	Other:
Number of years played:	
Playing Experience: please list clubs played for and level, high school, ODP experience, Awards and Honors. - Clubs (level): - High School (level): - OPD:	

References

1. (club) Name: _____ Contact #: _____ Email: _____
2. (high school) Name: _____ Contact #: _____ Email: _____
1. (Personal) Name: _____ Contact #: _____ Email: _____

Additional Information

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(Please make sure you attach picture)

Personal

Name:	D.O.B: / /	Height:	Weight:
Address:			
NCAA P.I.N:	SAT/ACT Score:	Preferred Major:	
Phone #	Email:		

Soccer Experience

Position (preferred)	Other:
Number of years played:	
Playing Experience: please list clubs played for and level, high school, ODP experience, Awards and Honors. - Clubs (level): - High School:	

High School and Club contact information

High School name:	Coaches Name:	Contact:
Address:		
Email and Website address:		

Current Club:	Coaches Name:	Contact:
Email and Website address:		

Please complete the following Questions;

1. In which collegiate division to you wish to play? NCAA 1 2 3 NAIA (Please circle)
2. In which part of the country do you wish to concentrate this search?
3. What sized school do you prefer?

Note: Completion of this resume does not guarantee an athletic, academic or federal financial aid. This resume is designed for those SA United Soccer Club players that are interested in participating in collegiate athletics. SA United will work to expose the talents and skills of their players to college coaches. Hard work, self discipline and devotion to your sport and education is the best way to ensure a place in college athletics.



Contents

- Excel in school
- Improve as a player
- Freshman year
- Sophomore year
- Junior year
- Senior year
- Get Organized & Stay Organized
- How to Select Schools
- Communicate well with college coaches.
 - Recruit the coach and the school the same way you would like to be recruited.



Excel in school

- Academics are very important.
- Meet with school Counselor.
- The better your G.P.A. (Grade Point Average) the greater possibility you have of being awarded academic scholarships.
- Some state schools waive out of state fees for good academics.
- Some schools will give automatic amounts of money for certain grades or test scores.

Improve as a player

- Make every practice; be early and stay late (work on your own)
- Improve yourself physically
- Watch games
- Make the commitment to reach your potential



Freshman Year

- Make a list of 30 to 50 schools that you are interested in and begin looking up general information on each school.
- Be sure you're taking your CORE classes in school. Review your academic plan.
- Work hard, do well in classes. Colleges see every grade starting with your freshman year in high school.

Sophomore Year

- Get organized
- Research Schools
- Write about 30 schools
- Schools cannot write specific letters back to you; they can only send general info
- A good time to write is before major tournaments
- Its good to get your name on their list of possible recruits
- Continue to keep up with the schools you're interested in and edit the list, as you need to.
- Consider taking your PSAT or Pre-ACT to practice test taking.
- Get involved in extracurricular activities in your high school years, and develop teamwork and leadership skills.
- Analyze abilities and interests and consider appropriate career possibilities.
- Maintain good grades.



Junior Year

September - November

- Attend college nights and edit your list according to the information collected.
- Sign up and study for the SAT/ ACT.
- Check with your counselor to make sure your course credits will meet college requirements.
- Begin building your online college admissions at www.collegequest.com
- Consider visiting local colleges to get ideas of what you like or do not like.

December - February

- Plan spring college visits, if possible.
- Maintain good grades.
- Plan a challenging schedule of classes for your senior year.

March - May

- Make sure you're taking your SAT or ACTs (There are several available).
- Meet with your guidance counselor at school to make sure you're signed up for challenging courses your senior year. Also, review your transcript and test scores to determine which colleges you would be eligible for.
- Plan your summer college visits.
- Start looking at college admissions applications to see what they are like.

June - August

- Attend summer camps at the colleges you're interested in.



- Visit colleges that interest you.
- Discuss letters of recommendation with a work supervisor and others you have dealings with.

Senior Year

September

- Register for the SAT or ACT as necessary.
- Ask appropriate teachers if they would write letters of recommendation for you.
- Meet with counselor to compile your final list of colleges. Make sure you have admission applications on all of them and begin filling them out. (Approximately 6-8 schools)

October

- Talk with parents about how much they can contribute and whether you should apply for financial aid (talk with your counselor about the appropriate steps to take in order to get your financial aid complete)
- Mail in early applications. Make sure they are complete, neat and no spelling errors or typos.
- (Make sure to photocopy your applications to use as backups.)
- DON'T BE LATE - Know the deadlines for each school you are interested in and get your application in before the deadline.

November

- Be sure that you have requested your ACT or SAT scores be sent to your colleges of choice.
- Be aware that most application deadlines are in the month of November.



December - January

- Prepare the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), available at www.fafsa.ed.gov or through your school counselor. It's an income tax form to be filled out and sent when you file your income tax statement.

February - May

- Make sure the FAFSA is completed and turned in.
- Review the acceptances and financial aid offers you've received
- **DEADLINE FOR SOCCER PLAYERS TO SIGN NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT IS IN THE FIRST WEEK OF FEB!**

Tips:

- Plan on taking your SAT or ACT more than one time. Your scores usually go up the second time.
- Type your application. It makes a great impression.
- Don't just lock on to one offer. Keep your options open until you have decided which college is best for you.
- Don't be afraid to call the coaches. They don't know how interested you are until you talk with them.
- Be patient. This is a huge process and commitment. Make sure you're making the right decision for you and your family.

Get Organized & Stay Organized

- The best way to get organized and stay organized is to use a binder. Categorize your schools:
 - **Dream, Realistic, Fall Back**

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- Make copies of your letters and save them
- Use a spreadsheet to keep up with correspondence. Dates that you wrote schools, dates that you received letters, calls, etc
- Spend an hour or so each week keeping up with the information



How to Select Schools

- Academics
- Soccer
- Socially
- Geographic
- Financial
- Size of school
- Public or Private
- NCAA Div. I, II, or III; or NAIA

Your goal should be to find schools that match you

Academics

- Choose schools that match the academics you are looking for
- Make sure they have degrees that you think you want to study
- Do searches on the internet to find schools that have the degrees you are interested in
- Cross reference your search academically with schools that you are interested in for soccer

Soccer

- Pick schools that are realistic for you
- Walk-on or scholarship
- Ask coach realistic playing time (starter, 1st team squad player, reserve team player)
- The majority of the schools on your list should be mid-range Div. I schools, Div. II and Div. III schools

Financial

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- Do not rule expensive schools out
- Schools can use soccer money, academic money and other financial aid money to make it work
- Local scholarships, businesses etc. (fastweb.com)

NCAA and NAIA

- Division I
- Division II
- Division III
- NAIA

In general, the higher the division, the stronger the program. However, the strongest Div. II and III programs may be tougher to play at than mid range Div. I programs.



Div. I

- Have up to 9.9 scholarships
- On average they will have 2 a year to give to about 5 to 6 players
- Examples: Clemson, Centenary, SMU, etc.
- Not all Div. I programs are fully funded. IVY League schools do not have scholarships

Div. II

- Have up to 9.9 scholarships
- Average 2.5 per year to get 5 to 6 players
- Examples: St. Edwards, Barry Univ., Incarnate Word
- Not all programs are fully funded.

Div. III

- No Athletic scholarships
- Usually high academic standards
- Some have excellent financial aid
- Use your soccer to get you an education that your academics alone could not earn
- Examples: Trinity, Southwestern, Hendrix

NAIA

- Not as many rules as NCAA
- Different contact rules
- Sometimes more financial assistance
- Examples: Berry College in Georgia



Communicate with College Coaches

- Freshman and sophomore year: write letters
- Junior year: write/ e-mail
- Senior year: phone call/ e-mail
- Sell yourself; let them know what a good person you are.
- If they like you as a person they are more likely to recruit you

How to write letters

- All letters should be personal
- ½ of the letter is the same in each letter. It should be about you and your interest
- ½ of the letter is different for each school. It should tie in why you are interested in their school specifically
- Attach a resume
- Send video if available
- Sell yourself; be open and honest

Email

- Emails are just like letters. They can send specific info on their programs in your Junior and senior year.

Telephone

- Prior to your senior year you may call the coach. The coach can not call you or even return your call
- Senior year they can call once a week
- Prior to your senior year you should call coaches and let them know about upcoming schedules and tournaments that you will be playing in
- Always be honest and sell yourself and your personality



Return Communication Quickly

- Return questionnaires, letters, emails and calls quickly
- They can get away with being slow and impersonal, you can not
- Being slow can be interpreted as a lack of interest
- Players should respond not parents

Parents Role

- Sit down with your son/daughter and listen to what their goals and interest are
- Guide them in the direction of their strengths
- Help them organize
- Give them advice when they ask
- Help but do not write their letters or emails
- Talk with college coaches when it is time to talk about money
- Do not try to negotiate; this is not looked upon favorably
- Parents that are too involved can scare coaches away
- Work in the background with support and advice
- Try not to put too much pressure on your son/daughter

Goals that parents should set

- Academic
- Calculate financial limits/boundaries
- Try to encourage your child to look at programs that are supportive off the field
- Remember that the goal should be **getting a degree**
- Level of soccer should be low on your priority list



Visits

- Unofficial Visits – organized by the player to visit the school, can meet with coach
- Official Visits – organized by coach of university, overnight visits

Unofficial Visits

- Usually taken prior to your senior year
- The visit is one that you pay for
- School may invite you on one or you can ask to take one
- Excellent way to see the school on your terms

Official Visit

- Taken in your senior year
- School pays for all or part of the visit
- You are allowed to be on campus for 48hrs
- You are allowed 5 official visits
- Must have taken the SAT and have filled out the Clearing House
- Must choose them wisely
- When schools want you to take an official visit it is a good idea to know where you stand
- Are you a scholarship athlete, etc.? This is the time to ask

Goals of Visits

- See School
- Watch team
- Meet players and Coach
- Observe the coach and team. See how the players respond to the coach and how the coach deals with the players.



Scholarships

- Scholarships come in ranges. Players can expect to get from 5% to 100% offers
- Academic Scholarships can be combined at some schools to improve the package
- Financial aid money is also available

Programs

- Average size of team is between 20 and 30
- Scholarships can be split between all or some of the players
- Most programs have scholarship and non scholarship athletes
- Your bigger more nationally known conferences usually have stronger programs (ACC, Big 12, SEC, WAC, Conference USA)

What do coaches look for?

-
- Good people; coaches are more likely to lose their job if players do not graduate and if there are problems with their program
- Good players
- They usually have certain needs each year
- You may be good enough to play there, but they may not have a need for you that year
- Coaches do not waste time on players that do not show interest; they do not have unlimited funds and time
 - **You must recruit the school**



Where do Coaches Recruit?

- At Tournaments. CASL Shootout, Disney Showcase, Storm Showcase, Surf Cup
- State/Region/National Cup Events
- ODP Events
- College Camps

Major Club Tournaments

- Coaches come with a list of players that have wrote to them
- They narrow the list based on who has shown the most interest and who plays for major clubs
- Watch warm-ups
- Watch how parents and players react during games
- Watch for conduct in hotels

ODP (Olympic Development Program)

- Coaches use ODP events to recruit
- Many Region Coaches in the older age groups are college coaches
- Many coaches attend to recruit
- They will go and watch National and Region team events
- ODP is a standard that College Coaches recognize
- High School honors are not accepted as a standard
- I would suggest looking at it like any camp you might do in the summer

Camps

- College Camps
 - Coaches use them to make money first and recruit second
 - If the camp is at a school that you are interested in, it can be useful
 - If it is a big camp with a number of college coaches, it can be of some help



PSAT, SAT, and ACT

- Standardize test
- PSAT is a test usually taken in the sophomore or Junior years.
- SAT should be taken in the junior year and retaken in the senior year if necessary
- ACT should be taken in the junior year and retaken in the senior year if necessary
- Some schools require the ACT some the SAT.

Initial Eligibility - Clearing House

- NCAA requirement.
- www.ncaaclearinghouse.net
- Must fill it out before taking an official visit
- Should be done at the end of the junior year and completed at the end of the senior year



Resources

- <http://www.ncaa.com/scoreboard.html>

This shows the schedules and scores for each day. You can link to the university or college from this site.

- <http://members.aol.com/jonagrm/soccer/mens.htm>

This is a state by state listing and links to colleges and university sites.

- The Sports Source Official Athletic College Guide
- NCAA web site. www.ncaa.org
- Universities web sites
- US News and World Reports Ranking of Schools



Time line for Elite player

- Freshman and sophomore years write letters
- Junior year call coaches and take unofficial visits
- Make decision at the end of your junior year, over the summer or early in the senior year (September)
- First Wednesday in February of your senior year sign National letter of Intent

Time line for most players

- Freshman and sophomore years write letters
- Junior year write, call and take unofficial visits
- Senior year take official visits
- Commit to school between October and March
- Sign National letter of Intent first Wednesday in February of your senior year or when you commit if after February

Ethics

- Expect honesty from coaches and be honest yourself
- When you commit to a school notify the other schools that were recruiting you and thank them for their interest
- Make sure that when you commit you are sure; unless the coach changes before you sign or something major happens, this is your choice, recruiting stops for you.

High School

- College coaches will not recruit at high school games. There are a couple of exceptions.
- High school soccer may or may not be a good environment for you to improve as a player
- College coaches do not look at High School honors
- College coaches do most of their recruitment through club soccer