

WELCOME!!

Kyle Cunningham – 9th Grade Counselor

High school coach for 19 years and classroom teacher for 21 years (coached for 17 years in LA and coached for 2 years in GA, early in my career)

Became involved with NCAA regulations while coaching

NCAA Experiences

- In 19 years of coaching, I saw a total of 65 high school student-athletes play football at the collegiate level (49 from the same school during an 8-year period). A total of 8 former players did play or are still playing in the NFL.
- Fortunate enough to have been on the coaching staffs of three Parade All-Americans and two honorable mention Parade All-Americans. One of the Parade All-Americans was also USA Today's High School Player of the Year (Offense) and he was the Gatorade National Player of the Year.

NCAA Experiences

- All of the previously mentioned student-athletes were able to receive scholarships because, 1) they had good grades and test scores, and 2) they were good athletes.
- However, during my 19 years as a coach I saw many more student-athletes who did not play at the collegiate level because those student-athletes did not put forth much effort in the classroom while they were in high school.

NCAA Experiences, con't

- Some of the previously mentioned student-athletes qualified for college with no problems, while some had to “work” for their college scholarships. Most, who had to “work”, did so because of their freshman year in high school.

Before we get started, a little “reality check”!

- Like it is stated in the commercial, “There are over 400,000 NCAA athletes and most of us are going pro in something other than sports.”

Estimated Probability of Competing in Athletics Beyond High School

- **Men's Basketball**
- Less than one in 35 high school senior boys playing interscholastic basketball will go on to play men's basketball at a NCAA member institution.
- Approximately three in 10,000, or approximately 0.03 percent of high school senior boys playing interscholastic basketball will eventually be drafted by an NBA team.

Estimated Probability of Competing in Athletics Beyond High School

- **Women's Basketball**

- About 3.3 percent of high school senior girls interscholastic basketball players will go on to play women's basketball at a NCAA member institution.
- Approximately one in 5,000, or approximately 0.02 percent of high school senior girls playing interscholastic basketball will eventually be drafted by a WNBA team.

Estimated Probability of Competing in Athletics Beyond High School

- **Baseball**

- Approximately three in 50 high school senior boys interscholastic baseball players will go on to play men's baseball at a NCAA member institution.
- Approximately one in 200, or approximately 0.45 percent of high school senior boys playing interscholastic baseball will eventually be drafted by an MLB team.

Estimated Probability of Competing in Athletics Beyond High School

- **Men's Soccer**
- Less than three in 50 high school senior boys interscholastic soccer players will go on to play men's soccer at a NCAA member institution.
- Approximately one in 1,250, or approximately 0.07 percent of high school senior boys playing interscholastic soccer will eventually be drafted by an MLS team.

Estimated Probability of Competing in Athletics Beyond High School

- **Football**
- Approximately one in 17 high school senior boys playing interscholastic football will go on to play football at a NCAA member institution.
- Approximately eight in 10,000, or approximately 0.08 percent of high school senior boys playing interscholastic football will eventually be drafted by an NFL team.

NCAA CLEARINGHOUSE (INITIAL ELIGIBILITY CENTER)

The NCAA Clearinghouse, now referred to as the Initial Eligibility Center) is the agency that NCAA member institutions (Division I and Division II) use in order to determine initial eligibility of student-athletes. Division III does not use the Initial Eligibility Center. Division III athletes must simply meet the individual institution's requirements.

Student-athletes **MUST** be registered with, and declared "eligible" by, the Initial Eligibility Center before he/she can accept any type of grant-in-aid for athletic purposes.

NCAA INITIAL ELIGIBILITY CENTER

- Student-athletes who intend to “walk-on” at any NCAA Division I or Division II institution must also be declared “eligible” by the Eligibility Center.

Division I

- Division I includes institutions that are members of the Football Bowl Subdivision (formerly I-A) and institutions in the Football Championship Subdivision (formerly I-AA). The eligibility requirements for ALL Division I schools are the same.

www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

- A prospective student-athlete must register at this site.
- Cost of registration is \$60.
- Fee waivers are available, but only if the student-athlete received a fee waiver for the ACT or SAT, or both.
- Other information can be found on the NCAA's website: www.ncaa.org.

A Word of Caution

- Neither website, www.ncaaclearinghouse.net nor www.ncaa.org, are very “user friendly”! It may take some time to navigate each website and find the information you need!
- However, the NCAA’s main website, www.ncaa.org, has recently been improved; however, it can still be frustrating!

When To Register

- High school student-athletes should register at the conclusion of their junior year. Registration is completed online.
- A copy of the student-athlete's transcript, must be mailed to the NCAA by the school's Guidance Office. (An official transcript has to be mailed to the Initial Eligibility Center following the junior and senior years of high school).
- For students who have transferred high schools, an official transcript from each high school must be sent to the eligibility center.

Amateurism questionnaire

- Students enrolling at an NCAA Division I or Division II institution for the first time need to also complete the amateurism questionnaire through the Eligibility Center Web site. Students need to request final amateurism certification prior to enrollment in college.

ACT and SAT

- Either test can be taken and used for initial eligibility. Each NCAA member institution, however, determines which test is accepted by the individual institution (some institutions will accept the ACT while others will only accept the SAT).
- So, unless you know which test is accepted, it is best to take both tests.

ACT and SAT con't

- For the Eligibility Center, Division I and Division II have different qualifying scores for the two tests.
- Division I uses a sliding scale (more about that later) while Division II requires a minimum score of 820 on the SAT and a sum score of 68 on the ACT.
- The score of 820 on the SAT is for the reading and math sections only. The writing section of the SAT is not used by the NCAA. However, a particular institution may require the writing section as part of its admission requirements.

ACT and SAT con't

- The Eligibility Center uses a sum of the scores of the 4 sections on the ACT (math, English, reading, and science).
- The sum of the four sections, for Division II, must be at least 68.
- Because the sum of the 4 sections is used, a student should take the ACT as many times as possible!
- The highest score for each section will be used to determine the sum for the ACT.
- For example, if a student scores a 16 in math the first time he/she takes the ACT, but scores a 20 in math the third time he/she takes the ACT, the score of 20 will be used to help determine the sum.

ACT and SAT con't

- The Eligibility Center will also use the best scores from the SAT subscore (math, verbal/critical reading), if the SAT is taken more than once.
- The key for each test, ACT and SAT, is to take each test as many times as possible.
- A student-athlete does not have to be registered with the Eligibility Center in order to have test scores accepted by the Eligibility Center. For example, a high school sophomore can take the ACT and have the scores sent to the Eligibility Center.

Division II

14 Core-Course Rule

- Must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 in 14 core courses.
- 14 Core Courses:
- 3 years of English
- 2 years of math (Algebra I or higher; Math I or higher for the Class of 2012 and beyond)
- 2 years of natural/physical science (lab)
- 2 years of additional English, math, science
- 2 years of social science
- 3 years of electives from any area above, foreign language, or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy
- Changes to 16 core courses beginning August 1, 2013
- Middle school courses taken for high school credit, i.e., Spanish I and Algebra I can be used.

Division I

16 Core-Course Rule

- Sliding scale for GPA; however, the minimum GPA on the sliding scale is 2.0
- 16 Core Courses:
- 4 years of English
- 3 years of math (Algebra I or higher; Math I or higher for the Class of 2012 and beyond).
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1lab)
- 1 year of additional English, math, or science
- 2 years of social science
- 4 years of additional courses from any area above, foreign language, or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy.
- Again, middle school courses for high school credit can be used.

IMPORTANT NOTE!!!!

- The previous requirements are MINIMUM requirements set forth by the Eligibility Center!! NCAA member institutions may have stricter guidelines for acceptance! Just because a high school student-athlete is deemed “eligible” by the Eligibility Center, that does not mean a particular member institution will deem the student-athlete “eligible”!

ANOTHER IMPORTANT NOTE!

- For the Class of 2012 and beyond, the math curriculum for the state of GA includes Math I, Math II, Math III (and accelerated classes for the above courses), and advanced math classes for the senior year. The Eligibility Center has accepted the new math courses as being “approved core courses” for East Paulding High School. Eventually, all of the new math courses should be accepted for every high school in GA.

YET ANOTHER IMPORTANT NOTE!!

- For the Class of 2012 and beyond, environmental science and earth systems are approved core courses for graduation from a high school in GA. Environmental science and earth systems are also on EPHS's approved core course list, with no designation as to the year of graduation. Environmental science and earth systems can be used as "extra" core classes.
- Biology and physical science will satisfy the 2 years of natural/physical science requirements.

Approved core course list

- All high schools are responsible for submitting courses to be added to the approved core course list for the individual high school. To view the approved core course list for your school, go to www.ncaaclearinghouse.net and click on “general information”; another page will appear. Click on “List of Approved Core Courses”. You can then enter the school’s test code or school name and view the list of approved core courses. (110957 for EPHS).

The Sliding Scale

- For Division I institutions, a sliding scale is used to determine initial eligibility.
- The scale is actually rather simple: The higher the core GPA, the lower the required ACT or SAT score.
- The lower the core GPA (2.0 is the lowest GPA accepted by either division) the higher the ACT or SAT score has to be.

Sliding Scale, con't.

- The sliding scale increases in increments of .025 points (i.e., 2.000 to 2.025 to 2.050, etc.). If a student's GPA falls between two grades on the scale, the lower of the two grades is the one that will be used by the Clearinghouse.
- For example, a GPA of 2.800 requires a minimum SAT score of 700 while a GPA of 2.825 requires a minimum SAT score of 690. If a student's GPA is from 2.810 to 2.824 the minimum required SAT would be 700.

Some Examples

- A Core GPA of 2.0 requires a minimum SAT score of 1010 and a minimum ACT sum of 86.
- A Core GPA of 3.550 and above requires a minimum SAT score of 400 and a minimum ACT sum of 37.
- The entire sliding scale can be found on the Eligibility Center's website.

Calculating the GPA

- The Initial Eligibility Center, and most colleges/universities, use a 4.0 scale for the GPA. To calculate the GPA, simply add the number of quality points earned and divide the sum of the quality points by the number of credits earned.

Calculating GPA, con't.

- Classes worth 1 credit:
- A = 4 quality points
- B = 3 quality points
- C = 2 quality points
- Classes worth 1/2 credit:
- A = 2 quality points
- B = 1.5 quality points
- C = 1 quality point

Sample GPAs

- 64 quality points with 16 credits = 4.0 GPA
- 40.5 quality points with 14 credits = 2.89 GPA
- A high school student-athlete needs to take as many core courses as possible, because the Eligibility Center will use the “extra” classes with the highest grades to determine initial eligibility.

NAIA

- An entering freshman must meet two of the three following entry-level requirements:
- A minimum score of 18 on the Enhanced ACT* or 860 on the SAT. Again, individual institutions may require an higher score on the ACT or SAT.
- An overall (all classes are used) high school grade point average of 2.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- Graduate in the upper half of the student's high school graduating class.

NAIA con't

- *The former ACT Assessment was revised in the late 1980s, and the Enhanced ACT Assessment was first administered in October 1989. This “newer” version of the ACT is currently in use, but the word "enhanced" is no longer included in its title.
- The NAIA website continues to use the word “enhanced”, but it does not mean there is a different ACT.

Eligibility Center

- When registering for either the SAT or ACT, use the Eligibility Center code of 9999 in order to have the test scores sent directly to the Eligibility Center.
- The scores must be sent directly to the Eligibility Center by ACT or SAT testing. If you use 9999 on your test registration, it will not cost you any extra money. If you don't use 9999, you will have to pay an additional fee to have your score sent to the Eligibility Center.

Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete

- www.ncaa.org
- Click on “Academics and Athletes” (on left side of page).
- Click on “Eligibility and Recruiting” (this will open another page on the site).
- Once on the new page, click on “Information for College-Bound Student-Athletes and Parents” (this will open another page on the site).
- On the new page, there is a heading that states, “Click here to view guide”. The guide can be downloaded and saved or the guide can be printed.

Web-based Recruiting Services

- BE CAUTIOUS!!
- Web-based recruiting services can charge between \$40 to \$2,000+ to “connect your student” with a college coaching staff.
- Many smaller colleges have started using recruiting services, and some larger colleges are also using these services. However, there are some recruiting services that are just trying to make money and are not really trying to help high school student-athletes.