INTRODUCTION

If you have excelled in one or more sports in high school, college coaches are likely to be interested in evaluating you as a prospective player. Though some coaches may reach out to you, most of the time the onus is on you, the student-athlete, to reach out to the coach. As a student-athlete, the college process involves two distinct, but intertwined processes: the admission process and the athletic process. The following is a guide to help you through the latter journey.

In a March 2008, The New York Times series addressing the experience of college student-athletes, many student-athletes interviewed mentioned the perception that student-athletes are “privileged.” While few would trade their collegiate experience and the opportunity to continue to compete in a sport they love for four more years, many mentioned the time constraints, academic conflicts, and struggle balancing academic and athletic commitments as common sources of friction; not to mention the physical and emotional demands their sport extols. A survey mentioned in the series estimated that 15% of student athletes turn down athletic scholarships because of these demands. As you proceed, think of the athletic recruitment process as indicative of the commitment required in college athletics.

When deciding whether to continue your sport(s) in college you must consider many factors, including the commitment required once you are in college. Many NCAA Division I and II and NAIA sports are considered full-time commitments, even into the summer months. NCAA Division III requires a full-time commitment in season and some off-season expectations. Coaches may expect their student-athletes to begin their day with morning classes, clearing the afternoon for practice, film sessions, positional/individual meetings, weightlifting and conditioning, and a visit to the trainer.

Process: Control what you can Control
For many student-athletes, the lure and appeal of playing at the college level is worth it. In order to make it happen, you must strive to:

1. Assess your athletic ability with help from your BB&N coach
2. Identify appropriate colleges with help from your college counselor
3. Communicate with college coaches and admissions offices
4. Cover all your bases & stay organized
5. Keep a positive attitude
6. Keep in mind that you are looking for a destination where you can be successful academically, athletically and personally
A. **Assess athletic ability.** The first step for a student-athlete is to assess his or her athletic ability and there are numerous resources that offer knowledgeable insights that, collectively, should direct your search.

1. **BB&N coach:** your BB&N coach can not only offer insight into your athletic abilities and talents, but can also tell you where previous BB&N student-athletes attended and their experiences.
2. **Club coach(es):** if you participate on teams outside BB&N, your club coach(es) have probably seen you compete against a wider level of competition.
3. **Camps and showcases:** camps allow you to compete against a wide range of student-athletes and can give you exposure to a wider range of coaches as well.
4. **College coaches:** when coaches work with you at camp, be sure to receive assessments of your strengths and weaknesses, areas for improvement and, when appropriate, inquire as to the possible colleges or the level you may be able to play. Remember, even if a coach may not recruit you (perhaps they have a backlog of players at your position already), the world of coaching is a small one, and (s)he may know of a coach who would like to hear from you.
5. **Personal evaluation:** as you compete at BB&N, summer camps and/or tournaments, take note of your performance against players on your team, league, and beyond. **Be realistic.** Attend college games, ideally those at schools in which you are interested, and assess your ability to play at that level. Then, using this information along with the informed opinions you’ve gathered, you can develop a gameplan for your athletic recruitment.

**Do not seek help from anyone who wants money for their support or advice. You have enough resources at your fingertips**

B. **Identify appropriate colleges.** You should not necessarily look at an athletic league, but rather focus on individual colleges to determine which college best fit your needs. Your college counselor will help you in this process. Remember, your college academic career will impact your life whereas athletics will most likely last four years. Finding colleges that best fit you and your interests should take priority. Put together a list of colleges that meet both your academic and athletic criteria.

C. **Communicate with college coaches.** Be proactive! Remember that coaches only have so much time and resources to find recruits. Often, you will need to take the initiative to contact coaches and follow-up to reiterate your interest.

D. **Understand roles in this process.** Your college counselor and coach will provide guidance and support to assist you in finding a school that provides an academic, athletic, and personal fit. Use your parents as moral support, administrative assistance, and a sounding board. **Coaches want to hear from you** as they learn about you, your personality and what makes you tick during these interactions. Use each opportunity as a chance to make a positive impression. As coaches will tell you, **they recruit students, not parents!**
THE NCAA & THE RECRUITING PROCESS

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) is a voluntary organization through which many of the nation's colleges and universities govern their athletics programs.

A. The NCAA Eligibility Center

The NCAA has established the Eligibility Center for purposes of recruiting and establishing student eligibility. If you expect to be recruited by a Division I or II school, and receive any of the following perks – expense paid or “official” visits, overnight accommodations, meals and/or travel expenses – you must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center prior to the visit. Check the NCAA Eligibility Center website for specific requirements (www.eligibilitycenter.org).

Be careful of rules; especially contact time periods, as these are considered your responsibility to know. If you have questions, check the NCAA website (www.ncaa.org) or contact the Eligibility Center directly at 1-877-262-1492.

1. Registration: If you expect to be actively recruited by a Division I or II school, you must register online at www.eligibilitycenter.org at the end of your junior or by the beginning of your senior year. If you do not expect to be actively recruited but still hope to play at the Division I or II level, register in your senior year.
   - The registration fee for domestic students is $60 and $85 for international students. If you think you are eligible for a waiver, talk to your college counselor prior to registering.

2. Registration Checklist:
   - Registration and Payment.
   - Preliminary Transcript(s) sent after the completion of grade 11: All transcripts must be official and sent directly from each secondary institution you have attended. If you have attended a secondary school other than BB&N, you must have an official transcript sent directly from previous institution(s). BB&N cannot send transcripts from another institution to the NCAA Eligibility Center.
   - Official Test Scores must be sent directly from testing agencies: Enter code 9999 to have scores automatically sent to NCAA. These scores will not be shared with colleges and is solely used by the NCAA. The NCAA will use your highest combined SAT or ACT total (note the writing section is not currently required).
   - Final Amateurism Certification: Login on or after April 1 of grade 12 to update academic and amateurism information and request Final Amateurism Certification.
   - Final Transcript and proof of graduation, which will be sent by the College Counseling Office in June of your senior year.

3. Academic Eligibility: For a student to be declared eligible at the Division I or II, (s)he must complete a minimum combination of Core Courses in English, Math, Natural/Physical Science, Social Science, Foreign Language and non-doctrinal Philosophy and Religion courses. Each student must attain a GPA and corresponding test score as outlined in the NCAA’s Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete. You may see the list of approved courses on the NCAA Eligibility Center’s website.
B. Official and Unofficial Visits:

An official visit is a visit financed in whole or part by the college:
- One visit per college.
- Miss Porter’s School recommends that student-athletes minimize official visits.
- Must present high school transcript and valid PSAT/SAT/ACT test scores prior to visit.
- Visit cannot exceed 48 hours.
- There is a limit of five official visits, regardless of the number of sport(s) you intend to play in college.

An unofficial visit is a visit made at a prospect’s own expense and can be very helpful, particularly early in the process.
- Unlimited number permitted and may be taken at any time.
- Prospect must pay for all expenses.
- All Div III visits are unofficial. There is no such thing as an “official” Div III visit.

C. Division III Athletic Programs

The largest of the three divisions, it comprises mainly of small to medium-sized institutions. Division III colleges do not offer athletic scholarships but are bound by several of the same rules and regulations that apply to Division I and II schools. There are some excellent advantages for students at Division III colleges. It is possible to play more than one sport, perhaps try out a new sport, and a more flexible athletic schedule that allows more time for studying and campus life.

D. National Letter of Intent (NLI)

The National Letter of Intent, which is administered by the NCAA Eligibility Center with oversight from the Collegiate Commissioners Association, is a binding agreement by a participating institution to provide athletic aid to an eligible prospective student-athlete in exchange for a commitment to enroll at the institution for one academic year.

- A student-athlete is not required to sign an NLI in order to receive athletic aid.
- An institutional financial aid agreement must accompany an NLI.
- Failure of the student-athlete to attend the institution for one full academic year will result in a penalty.
- NLI cannot be hand-delivered by or signed in the presence of an institutional staff member.
- Certain circumstances will render NLI unenforceable.
- A verbal commitment is considered a non-binding agreement and is not recognized by the NLI.
- Some conferences (Ivy League) and schools (service academies) do not subscribe to NLI.
- Remember, you are committing to a college, not a coach. If the coach leaves, your letter still holds.

E. Athletic Scholarships

Some Division I and II colleges award athletic scholarships to students with outstanding ability. These scholarships are based on talent without regard to financial need. An outstanding student-athlete may be offered a scholarship called a “Grant in Aid,” by a particular college before he or she has received decisions from other colleges. Before accepting the “Grant in Aid” you may be asked to sign a “Letter of Intent” wherein you promise to enroll at the college and withdraw all your other applications. If you should be offered a “Grant in Aid,” we suggest you speak with your parents, counselor and coach before you sign on the dotted line.
Athletic scholarships are very competitive and most do not cover full tuition. The NCAA places caps on the number of scholarships a school may offer for each sport and most schools do not fully fund sports. For example, though the NCAA allows 12.9 full scholarships for Division I women’s soccer, a school may only fund 6. As of now, only the largest of women’s soccer programs are fully funded (e.g., Penn State, UNC, Santa Clara, University of Portland, Florida State, etc.). Therefore a coach will be forced to divide the allocated scholarships across his/her team of 20 players. The average awarded scholarship is $8700, while most tuitions range from $20,000 - $50,000.

Interesting Fact!
One fully-funded sport by all 326 Division 1 colleges is men’s basketball, which allows for 13 full scholarships, or 3.25 each year. On any given year, there are 1,059 scholarships available for basketball (or 21 per state) and this does not even fully fund a team that often has 16 players! In 2004, athletic scholarships went to 2% of the 6.4 million that played their respective high school sport in the freshman year.

All scholarships are 1 year in length. A college cannot promise more than one year, though they may orally commit to longer. A college must notify you by July 1 with offer for the following year and can opt to not offer you the scholarship for a variety of reasons.

The Ivy League does not offer athletic scholarships of any kind. Any scholarships from Ivy League institutions are need-based.

WORKING WITH COLLEGE COACHES

To optimize your process, you should expect to reach out to college coaches by completing online questionnaires, sending letters/emails, mailing videos, and phoning coaches. Remember, coaches are extremely busy and have no way of knowing each student-athlete on their own accord. Take the initiative to contact coaches and start the process. The first step in being recruited is introducing yourself!

A. Quick Tips for Contacting Coaches:

✓ Stay organized! Start your process by getting organized. Be prepared to keep track of contacts and phone calls. You will want to keep copies of what you send to each coach.

✓ Contact coaches directly. Inform them of your interest and your level of participation in high school. The more personalized the contact, the better. Be sure to address the letter to the coach and describe specific reasons for your interest in his/her institution.

✓ Draft an introductory letter and athletic resume. Names, addresses, and telephone numbers for college coaches can be found in the NCAA National Directory of College Athletics or by visiting the college's website.

✓ Follow Up. Remember, you are an unknown. Follow up that information was received. It shows interest and that you are serious about school.
Visit! Arrange to meet with coaches and tour the athletic facilities. See a game if possible or meet with current players. If you are a serious athlete, you will be spending a lot of your time and energy on your sport. Follow up a week or two ahead to confirm your visit.

Notify coaches of any new information, especially a schedule of upcoming games and tournaments, summer plans, and other events that could impact your recruitment.

Listen carefully to coaches. A coach who says “it would be nice to have you on the team” does not see you the same way as one who says that “you will be an impact player here and are our number one recruit.”

Remember, coaches want to talk to you, not your parents! These conversations can be a chance for you to show your attitude, personality and approach to the sport. Coaches are trying to assess if you will fit in their program.

Ultimately, no matter what a coach may promise, your letter of acceptance comes from the admission office, so make sure you follow the advice of your college counselor as the athletic process and admission process, while tied together, are distinct processes.

B. Recruiting Timeline

1. Identification. Coaches are constantly looking to optimize their recruit list with the most and best fits for their program. The first step is to send an introductory letter or email and to complete any questionnaires. Note that you may need to follow-up with the coach. Do not take a lack of silence for a lack of interest. In fact, following up will show your interest in the program and desire to play.

2. Follow-up Contact. Once the coach has established contact with you, (s)he will send emails, mailings, and even invitations to visit camp or special visit days. This is a positive sign but indicates solely that the coach is further assessing your abilities.

3. Phone Calls: First contact will occur on or around July 1 of your senior year, a date determined by the NCAA. You may always call the coach however.

4. Repeated and Weekly Contact. As your senior year commences, a coach will contact you as often as the NCAA will allow. Generally this is a weekly call (or as allowed by the NCAA), just to touch base and show his/her continued interest in you as a prospective student-athlete.

5. Invitation to Campus. For Division I or II schools, this could be an official visit. A DI or DII coach has a limited number of official visits (s)he can offer, so if you are “offered,” it is a positive sign that you are a serious recruit.

6. Support from Coach. The coach will prioritize his/her recruit list based on a variety of factors, including academics (grades and test scores), needs of the team (positions, athleticism, etc), and the guidelines established by the NCAA and the institution. Sometimes this can mean a scholarship offer (and perhaps a letter of intent), a request that you apply early, or submission of your application for a likely letter (Ivy League).
DIV I Recruiting Cycle Timeline Important Dates

July 1 of Sophomore Year
- Prospects can receive one informational mailing about the college

September of 1 Junior Year
- Coaches can start emailing prospects

July 1 of Senior Year
- Coaches can start calling prospects once a week

October 1 of Senior Year
- Ivy League Institutions can Send Likely Letters to their Recruits

2nd Week of November Senior Year
- Prospects can sign National Letter of Intent

Division III Recruiting Cycle Timeline Important Dates

Coach can contact (phone/email) starting in prospective student-athlete’s freshman year
Following junior year, coach will need:
- Transcript (unofficial)
- Class Rank (if school ranks)
- SAT/ACT scores
- School Profile
- Skills Video

C. Summer Camps
There are a wide variety and levels of summer camps available. Camps offer you a chance to compare your skills against wider competition, extend your exposure to college coaches, and to assess your level of play. Before registering, it is best to get a sense for the caliber of competition, which coaches will be in attendance and which coaches will be on staff and working with campers.

You should attend camps at schools in which you are interested and where you believe yourself to be a competitive recruit. Coaches may also attend camps off-campus as well. Check the list of coaches present at each camp to help you determine which camps to attend.

To optimize your camp experience, get feedback! Do not hesitate to approach coaches for specific feedback on your strengths and weaknesses, ways you can improve and where you may be able to play at the college level. Though a coach may not see you as a potential recruit, (s)he may have ideas for you!

D. Showcases
Showcases can offer you a chance for exposure to coaches beyond the local area. Talk to other players to determine which showcases they plan on attending. Talk to high school, club and college coaches for advice.

E. Video
More than likely, a coach may not be able to see you play in person, as your season will overlap with his/hers. If that is the case, you may consider preparing a video. Consult with your BB&N coach and the college coach to determine what should be on the film. Most videos will include a brief highlight section along with a half or two against quality competition. There may times where a skills video may be appropriate, depending on your sport and/or position. The entire video may only be 10 to 15 minutes in length. Be sure to include your name, team, and uniform color and number on the video! College coaches find a secure utube link to be most convenient.
F. Applying with Coach’s Support

A coach’s recruiting list can be very fluid well into senior year. They can continue to assess fall and winter student-athletes well into their senior seasons. At some point, however, (s)he will be able to offer you feedback on the level of support (s)he can offer. The level of support can vary across sports, schools and leagues. Just as coaches maintain a pool of potential recruits throughout the process, so, too, should you keep a list of coaches with whom you remain in contact.

Whether (s)he is the coach of a Soccer team team with a start of thousands of recruits or a cross-country team with a list of several hundred, (s)he will work to narrow the list to a final group of recruits they would like to see on the team. You should be clear of the level of support you will receive from the coach and where you stand in the context of the other recruits.

For a coach to offer you support in the admission process, (s)he will want your transcript and test scores in order assess your likelihood for admission. Often times, a coach will work with a liaison in the admission office to assess your chances. If (s)he asks you to apply early or submit materials for a “pre-read,” contact your college counselor and BB&N coach.

CHECKLIST FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES BY YEAR

A. FRESHMAN YEAR
   o STUDY – Your transcript starts now!
   o Let your high school coach know you may be interested in competing at the college level
   o Start creating an athletic resume by investing your energy into your development as a player in meaningful ways.
   o It is essential at this point in an student-athlete’s career to focus on development and experience
     o Go to camp – focus on programs with strong instructional curriculum as opposed to showcase camps
     o Play on club teams, play as much as possible
     o Attend clinics/showcases for experience, not evaluation

B. SOPHOMORE YEAR
   o Meet with your BB&N coach to discuss your hopes and prospects of playing.
   o Fill out perspective student-athlete questionnaires on websites of schools you are interested in
     o Send coaches a short introductory email with name, school, grade, position and contact information
   o Inform your BB&N coach about any questionnaires that are mailed to you by college coaches.
   o Start videotaping your games/matches/meets
   o Attend summer camps/showcases
     o Get in front of coaches of schools in which you’re interested
     o Email college coaches summer camp/showcase schedule
   o Ask coach(es) to assess your athletic talent
     o What division best suites my athletic talents?
C. JUNIOR YEAR

- Develop your list of colleges that fit your academic and athletic criteria with your college counselor.
- At the same time, develop your “broken leg list” of colleges that interest you outside of your athletic pursuits.
- Contact coaches at the colleges you are interested
  - Provide your athletic resume, highlight DVD/utube link, game/meet schedule, and camp/showcase schedule
- Return questionnaires that are mailed to you by coaches to schools in which you are interested.
- Initiate meeting with high school coach to review collegiate aspirations
  - Have coach contact colleges when/if appropriate
- Attend camps and showcases at schools you are interested in
- Take standardized tests for the first time in the early winter.
  - When you take any ACT or SAT Reasoning Test request your score report sent to the NCAA for free by filling out 9999 in the score report box when you register.
- Register for Clearinghouse (spring term)
  - www.eligibilitycenter.org

D. SENIOR YEAR

- Follow up contact with college coaches
- Update athletic resume and highlight film
- Keep in contact with your college counselor and BB&N coach. Let your BB&N coaches know what coaches you are in contact with and if you want them to contact coaches on your behalf. This should only be done after you have been in touch with college coaches yourself.
- Work closely with College Office during application process
- DO NOT COMMIT TO A COACH UNTIL YOU HAVE DISCUSSED YOUR OPTIONS WITH YOUR COLLEGE COUNSELOR, PARENT, AND BB&N COACH. Never commit during your visit to a school, wait a few days to think it over.
- Let a coach know if you are no longer interested after thinking long and hard. Often once you do so, it is difficult to get back on his/her list.
- On or after April 1 of senior year, update academic and amateurism information and request Final Amateurism Certification.
GENERAL QUESTIONS TO ASK COLLEGE COACHES & TEAMMATES

Prior to your visit (official or unofficial), you should research the school and program to maximize your visit. This homework will allow your conversations with coaches, future teammates and college community members to be much more informative. While you are on campus, you will want to get a sense for the following:

1. What is a typical day like?
   a. How many hours a day will my athletic commitments require?
   b. Are there mandatory study halls?
   c. Is free tutoring available or expected?
   d. How many hours a day do most students devote to study at this college?

2. What are the expectations should there be conflicts between classes and practice?

3. How many classes can I expect to miss due to athletic commitments, travel, etc.?
   a. Can I make up tests before or after absences?
   b. Are professors understanding and adaptable to conflicts?

4. What percentage of student-athletes graduates in 4 years? 5 years?

5. How long has the coach been at the school? Is the coach returning? What about my position coach?

6. Do I fit in the program and the coach’s system?

7. Can my athletic scores, records, and times qualify me for this team? For the school?

8. What is the varsity team roster?
   a. How many four years seniors are there?
   b. What is the attrition for student-athletes?
   c. Does this coach rely on transfers?
   d. How many players are at my position and what year are they?

9. Does this college environment appeal to me?

10. For what position/event would I be recruited?

11. Will I live in a regular or a student-athlete’s dorm?

12. What accident/health insurance does the school offer student-athletes? What is the procedure if injured? And, (if applicable) how will this affect my scholarship?
QUESTIONS TO ASK ABOUT PROSPECTIVE PROGRAMS

ACADEMICS
Do you have the major I want?
What are your requirements for graduation?
Do you have a full-time academic advisor for student-athletes?
Is there advance course registration for student-athletes?
Are tutors and study skills help available?
Is there a supervised study hall? How often, and who supervises?
How many classes do student-athletes miss a year?
What is the faculty-student ratio?
What is the average class size?
Am I capable of handling the academic and athletic demands?
Are my grades and scores comparable to non-athletes who are accepted at the school?
What percentage of players graduate? And what do they do after graduating?

PROGRAM
What are the strengths/weaknesses of the program?
What is the level of university support the program receives?
Where did the team finish in the conference last year?
What was the overall record last year?
What is the history and direction of the program?
What is the strength of schedule?
Is it possible to participate in post-season play?
Where does the team travel?
What are the expectations over breaks? Are there practices/games?
What method of travel is used?
How many ranked teams are in the conference?
Do players go home for the holidays?
Is there a team doctor?
If interested, can I play other sports?
Is there a freshman or junior varsity program?
What off-season programs are required?
Am I guaranteed a spot on the team each year or will there be annual tryouts?
Can freshmen expect playing time?

PERSONNEL
How many coaches are on staff? How many are full-time?
What is the tenure of the head coach and assistants?
What is the philosophy regarding academics and athletics?
What is the philosophy regarding style of play?
What is the rapport of team/coaches?
What type of rapport do the players have with one another?
What is the character of the team and coaching staff?
For what position/event would I compete?
How many players graduate at my position/event?
How many players return at my position/event?
Should I anticipate any coaching changes?
FACILITIES
What is the capacity of the facility?
What is the quality/size of locker room?
How do the facilities look?
Are new facilities planned?
Are there athlete-only weight training facilities?
How many trainers per sport?
Are there adequate facilities in case of bad weather?

LOCATION/GENERAL INFORMATION
How close is the nearest airport?
How is the location of the campus?
Is travel by bus or train possible?
What is the undergraduate enrollment?
How many students live on campus?
Do student-athletes room together?
How far are the dorms from the practice field?
Is transportation necessary to get from one part of campus to the other?
Will your friends and family be able to see me play?
Can I afford the costs of attending here (transportation, fees, tuition, room-and-board)? If I’m offered partial or full scholarship, what are the details?

CONCLUSION

For most, the college search and application process is a substantial undertaking as you learn about yourself and the thousands of colleges out there, create a balanced college list and then apply. As a prospective student-athlete, you must not only shoulder these responsibilities, but also the athletic piece.

Much of the process is out of your hands, so control what you can control. Keep in mind the two distinct processes: athletic and admissions and be careful to keep a list of likely schools (without athletics). In the end, you need to ask yourself if you would attend this institution if you had no intention of playing your sport and if this college provides you the opportunity be successful academically, athletically and personally.
A. SAMPLE ATHLETIC RESUME

When contacting a coach, know that (s)he would like a quick and neat breakdown of your athletic (and even academic) interests. Your resume should include your name, school, address, phone number, email address, date of birth, and year of graduation. You should also include all teams on which you have played and any additional information. You may include Academic Section (SAT/ACT, Academic Interests, HS, Counselor Name and contact, etc.).

Carolyn Polley
80 Gerrys Landing Road
Cambridge, MA 02138
Cpolley@bbns.org (617)800-2149

Buckingham Browne & Nichols School
Graduation Date: 6/10/2016

SOCCER:

BB&N School (Cambridge, MA) 2012-2016
Coach: James Perry (jperry@bbns.org)
Position: MF
Led team in goals (7) in 2015.

Maine Blue Bears (Augusta, ME) 2012-2016
Coach: Jack Montcalm (jjmontcalm@hotmail.com)
Position: MF
New England 3rd Place (2015); All-tournament team (Levis Invitational, 2015).

Hapoon Bay 16u (Harpoon Bay, ME) 2012-2016
Coach: Missy Wolfe (mwolfe@gmail.com)
Position: MF, D
Earned MVP in NE Regional Tournament (2015); Set team record in assists for year (15).

Other Sports:

BB&N Tennis (Cambridge, MA) 2012-2016
Coach: Bridget Gagne (bgagne@bbns.org)
Singles & Doubles
B. SAMPLE COVER LETTER

A cover letter or email should be no more than a one-page introduction. It should be in the form of a personal letter to the coach (not just “dear coach”), mentioning connections (for example, if you know a current player) and/or specific interests you may have in the school. In essence, a cover letter should tell a coach who you are and why you are interested in his or her institution and athletic program. The College Counseling Office and the Athletic Office have a directory of college coaches and programs. College websites also have a great deal of information for prospective student-athletes.

Carolyn Polley  
80 Gerrys Landing Road  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Coach Abraham Martin  
Champlain University  
835 Wilfred Avenue  
Lawrence, ME  01759

Dear Coach Martin:

I am currently in grade 11 at BB&N School where I have earned three varsity letters in soccer. I have begun worked closely with my coach, college counselor, and family to create a college list that reflects my interests and talents and in the process I have become interested in Champlain University. Though my academic interests are still fairly general, I anticipate majoring in international relations, a program of great acclaim at CU.

After taking the ACT for the first time this February, I have a composite of 33. Through nine trimesters, I have maintained a GPA roughly equivalent to a B+/A-. I have registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center and will have my official transcript sent to the Eligibility Center following grade 11.

In addition to competing for BB&N, I played in a local weekend indoor soccer league last summer, and have been a member of the Harpoon Bay Whalers Soccer Club since I was six years old. I have played on travel teams for the Whalers for ten years and for the Maine Selects 14u and 16u teams as well. I have also attended several camps and clinics. A former teammate of mine and current Mountain Goat, Jean Levy, has told me about your program and my prospects of playing for you. Our conversations have furthered my interest in Champlain.

Even though I plan to concentrate on soccer in college, I have enjoyed the variety of training and competitive experience I’ve gained by playing more than one sport in high school. I have played tennis for BB&N as well and enjoy the challenge of singles matches as well as the teamwork required for competing in doubles.

Please send me any information I will need to be a candidate for your college and for your soccer team. Thank you very much for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Polley

College Counselor: Tricia Jorden (tjordan@bbns.org)