



COLLEGE SOFTBALL RECRUITING  
INFORMATION SESSION

2023

# TONIGHT'S AGENDA



- Decision Making
- College Softball Stats
- Financials
- Vortex/A's Website Resources
- College Coaches & Sending Emails
- College Camps
- SportsRecruits
- Panel



# TRUST THE PROCESS.



## Exploration

- Get to know Colleges
- Get to know yourself

## Investigation

- Develop a Target Zone

## Decisions

- Ask the Right Questions



# IS PURSUING COLLEGE SOFTBALL THE RIGHT DECISION FOR YOU?



## YES

- I currently train for softball outside of scheduled practice time consistently.
- I want to be a part of a team where softball is my top priority & consumes most of my day.
- I am able to catch up on my academics even after I've missed class.
- I am emotionally resilient & want to be a part of the athlete community.

## NO

- I don't like being corrected by my coach.
- I find it challenging to keep up with my schoolwork and extracurricular activities.
- I want to study abroad during a spring semester
- I plan on having a full-time job during the school year.



# PICKING THE RIGHT SCHOOL FOR YOU



## Considerations:

- Location/Weather
- Degrees offered
- Campus Life
- Cost
- Private or Public
- Class Size
- Division
- Playing Time
- Recruits/Current Players same position as you

**“Go where you’re wanted. Go where you’ll develop as a person & player. Go where IF Softball ended abruptly, you would still be happy. Go where you’ll receive a great education. This is your future...not some impulsive decision... Be informed.”**

**- Dan Cevette**



## Division I

Division I schools, on average, enroll the most students, manage the largest athletics budgets, offer a wide array of academic programs and provide the most athletics scholarships and additional financial support.

### PARTICIPATION

**188,710**

student-athletes

**351**

colleges and universities

### ATHLETICS SCHOLARSHIPS

**58%**

of all student-athletes receive some level of athletics aid.

### ACADEMICS

2021 Graduation Success Rate:



### OTHER STATS

**8,449**

Median Undergraduate Enrollment

**19**

Average Number of Teams per School

**5%**

Percentage of Student Body Participating in Sports

**26**

Division I National Championships

## Division II

Division II provides growth opportunities through academic achievement, high-level athletics competition and community engagement. Many participants are first-generation college students.

### PARTICIPATION

**130,373**

student-athletes

**296**

colleges and universities

### ATHLETICS SCHOLARSHIPS

**67%**

of all student-athletes receive some level of athletics aid.

### ACADEMICS

2021 Academic Success Rate:



### OTHER STATS

**2,300**

Median Undergraduate Enrollment

**16**

Average Number of Teams per School

**11%**

Percentage of Student Body Participating in Sports

**25**

Division II National Championships

## Division III

The Division III experience provides an integrated environment that focuses on academic success while offering competitive athletics and meaningful nonathletics opportunities.

### PARTICIPATION

**201,387**

student-athletes

**433**

colleges and universities

### FINANCIAL AID

**80%**

of all student-athletes receive some form of academic scholarship or need-based grant; institutional gift aid totals \$17,000 on average.

### ACADEMICS

2021 Academic Success Rate:



### OTHER STATS

**1,655**

Median Undergraduate Enrollment

**19**

Average Number of Teams per School

**17%**

Percentage of Student Body Participating in Sports

**28**

Division III National Championships

# NCAA DIVISIONS



# NAIA



## Why an NAIA school might be your best bet

### NAIA

Average full-time enrollment

438

Average number of student-athletes

293

Median athletics budget

\$3.21M

Average number of sports

16

Private institutions



Faith-based institutions



Institutions that qualify for a national championship



Operating budget

\$1.5M

Athletic aid

\$1.42M



# NJCAA/CC



Junior colleges are two-year universities that give student-athletes an opportunity to develop their athletic and academic skills in a post high school program. With more than 500 junior college softball programs, the opportunities are almost endless. And if you think these teams aren't tough—think again! Many junior college softball teams have future D1 and D2 athletes on their roster who are there to hone their skills before they commit to a four-year school. For athletes who may not have the grades, finances or build yet for a four-year school, a junior college softball program can be a great way to gain experience competing against collegiate athletes while developing those essential skills.

## **Are there junior college softball scholarships?**

Yes, junior colleges can—and do—offer scholarships for qualified athletes! Depending on the school and how funded the program is, qualified athletes might receive a partial or full-ride scholarship to attend the school.

## **Are there junior college softball championships?**

Yes, each of the three junior college division levels hosts its own tournament. The top teams can compete for the championship in their respective division. [To learn more, visit the junior college softball website.](#)





# ODDS OF A HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL PLAYER COMPETING IN COLLEGE SOFTBALL



## College Softball Odds 2022:

Number of US High School Softball Players 2021-22	357,110
Number of College Softball Players (see table below)	34,889
% of US High School Softball Players competing at any College Level	9.7%
% of US High School Softball Players Competing at NCAA I Schools	2.0%
Odds of a US High School Softball Player making any College Roster	10:1
Odds of a US High School Softball Player making an NCAA I Roster	51:1



# ODDS OF A HS PLAYER MAKING A D1 ROSTER



Rank	State	Odds	Rank	State	Odds	Rank	State	Odds
1	California	28:1	18	Connecticut	61:1	35	Alaska	97:1
2	Georgia	31:1	19	Nebraska	62:1	36	Michigan	104:1
3	Florida	35:1	20	New Jersey	65:1	37	Arkansas	105:1
4	North Carolina	36:1	21	Montana	72:1	38	Kansas	111:1
5	Delaware	36:1	22	Colorado	76:1	39	Pennsylvania	112:1
6	Virginia	37:1	23	Alabama	78:1	40	Oregon	114:1
7	Arizona	37:1	24	Washington	79:1	41	New Hampshire	136:1
8	Nevada	38:1	25	Oklahoma	80:1	42	Massachusetts	149:1
9	Hawaii	41:1	26	Ohio	83:1	43	West Virginia	152:1
10	Tennessee	43:1	27	New York	84:1	44	Wisconsin	227:1
11	Louisiana	47:1	28	Kentucky	85:1	45	South Dakota	256:1
12	Indiana	50:1	29	Rhode Island	86:1	46	Minnesota	273:1
13	Texas	52:1	30	Missouri	90:1	47	Wyoming	296:1
14	Illinois	54:1	31	Iowa	91:1	48	Maine	341:1
15	South Carolina	56:1	32	Mississippi	94:1	49	North Dakota	354:1
16	Utah	57:1	33	New Mexico	95:1	50	District of Columbia	478:1
17	Maryland	59:1	34	Idaho	96:1	51	Vermont	592:1



# COLLEGE SOFTBALL TEAMS



Division	# of Schools	# of Teams	Total Players	Average Roster	Scholarship Limit	Average Scholarship
NCAA I	308	307	7,024	23	12	18,267
NCAA II	277	277	6,261	23	7.2	7,840
NCAA III	410	407	8,334	21		
NAIA	201	201	4,659	23	10	7,538
NJCAA	367	367	6,446	18	24	3,280
CCCAA	79	79	1,227	16		
NWAC	25	25	406	16	11	745
Other	34	34	532	16		378
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,701</b>	<b>1,697</b>	<b>34,889</b>	<b>21</b>		





Twin Cities Undergraduates 	Commuter	Resident (includes, SD, ND, WI, Manitoba) <sup>1</sup>  Dorm or Apartment	Non-resident <sup>2</sup>  Dorm or Apartment
Tuition & Fees <sup>3</sup>	\$16,108	\$16,108	\$35,348
Book & Supplies	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Room & Board <sup>3</sup>	\$3,656	\$11,894	\$11,894
Transportation	\$200	\$200	\$1,700
Personal/Misc <sup>4</sup>	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Loan Fee <sup>5</sup>	\$146	\$146	\$146
<b>Total*</b>	<b>\$23,110</b>	<b>\$31,348</b>	<b>\$52,088</b>

Admissions.tc.umn.edu



# STUDENT LOAN DEBT



**1 in 4** Americans have student loan debt. The average student loan debt amount is **\$37,172** and monthly payment **\$393**.



# SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



## ACADEMIC

- Grants based on ACT/SAT Score
- Grants based on GPA
- Opportunities vary based on university and college program selected

## ATHLETIC

- The average scholarship is \$6,341 / year across all NCAA divisions
- Recruited Walk On
- Books Scholarship
- Partial Scholarship
- Full Tuition Scholarship

## PRIVATE/BUSINESS

- Scholarships for Women
- Scholarships for First Generation College Student
- Scholarships based on Ethnicity & Race
- Scholarship from HS, Community, Local Businesses



# GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL AID ASSISTANCE



Apply Starting October 1 of Senior Year



# NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER



You are taking the first steps to becoming an NCAA student-athlete.

Before you can be certified to compete at a Division I or II school, we need to know more about your academic history and sports experiences. We'll also need your standardized test scores, high school transcripts and your request for final amateurism certification.



## Create Your Account

We'll ask about the high schools or secondary schools you have attended and the sports in which you have competed.

View the [Registration Checklist](#) for more detailed information.

[Create an account](#)



## Send Your ACT/SAT Scores and Transcripts

Ask your testing agency to send us your scores using code 9999.



## Request Your Amateurism Certification

Available during your senior year of high school.

- 1. Create an account & pay the registration fee for D1 & D2 schools (\$90).
  - If you aspire to play in a D3 program, only sign up for D3 because there is no registration fee.
  - It's important to know that there are fee waivers available for students on free/reduced lunch with approval from your high school guidance counselor.
- 2. Send The NCAA your ACT/SAT Score each time you take the exams by writing the code 9999 on your exam.
- 3. Request your amateurism certification during your senior year of high school from your high school guidance counselor.





# VORTEX & A'S WEBSITE RESOURCES



**Minnesota A's**

TEAMS FACILITIES EVENTS + RECRUITMENT + ABOUT + STORE CONTACT +

- RECRUITMENT OVERVIEW
- SPORTSRECRUITS
- ALUMNI
- COLLEGE CAMPS TO ATTEND
- COLLEGE RECRUITMENT NIGHT MEETING

**MINNESOTA A'S**  
FASTPITCH

# COLLEGE COACHES RECRUITING FEEDBACK



# OTHER COLLEGE COACHES' ON RECRUITING



- On top of Talent, we look for:
  - Athleticism
  - Strength & Conditioning Experience
  - Academics
  - Attitude
  - Character is a good fit
  - Measurables
- Good people we want to spend time with
- Players that show they LOVE the game
- How do they show up to the fields?  
First one there? Sitting around doing nothing? Getting work in?
- What are the players' parents like?
- We check the player and parent social media accounts
- Looking for a good person with intelligence of the game
- Fearless & 100% effort
- How do they handle themselves when things go bad? When things go well?



# INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL MEDIA



Before you speak:

**THINK**

**T** = Is it True?

**H** = Is it Helpful?

**I** = Is it Inspiring?

**N** = Is it Necessary?

**K** = Is it Kind?



# WANT TO PLAY COLLEGE SOFTBALL?



1. Do your prep work
  - List of schools
  - SportsRecruits Profile Filled out completely & updated
  - Compile video and stats
2. Talk to your Coach(es)
3. Contact Mike Carter & Becky Smith to set up a meeting
  - [minnesotavortex@gmail.com](mailto:minnesotavortex@gmail.com)
  - [playerdevelopment@minnesotavortex.org](mailto:playerdevelopment@minnesotavortex.org)



# MAKING A LIST



- Find schools that fit your criteria
- List of Schools
  - 5+ reach schools
  - 5+ realistic schools
  - 5+ safety schools
- Always adjust list





# College Recruiting Plan by Year



## 8th Grade & Younger

- Start College List
- Plan to contact College Coaches next year
- Start going to College Camps
- Consider working on speed, strength and overall athleticism.
- Good Grades

## Freshman Year

- List: 20 to 30 schools
- Contact College Coaches
- Recruiting Questionnaires
- Videos & Stats
- College Camps/Showcases
- Work on Strength & Speed
- Good Grades

## Sophomore Year

- Register on NCAA & NAIA Eligibility Centers
- Keep updating College List
- Keep contacting College Coaches
- Recruiting Questionnaires
- Videos & Stats
- College Camps/Showcases
- ACT/SAT prep
- Work on Strength & Speed
- Good Grades

## Junior Year

- List: 10 to 15 schools.
- Keep contacting College Coaches, ask where you stand
- Recruiting Questionnaires
- Videos & Stats
- ACT/SAT
- Unofficial Visits
- College Camps/Showcases
- Work on Strength & Speed
- Good Grades

## Senior Year

- List to 3 to 5 schools,
- Stay in contact with coaches weekly, ask about offer timeline
- Camps/Showcases/Questionnaires/Video/Stats (only if roster spot avail)
- Official Visits
- ACT/SAT
- FAFSA
- Apply for College
- Work on Strength & Speed
- Make YOUR decision
- Good Grades



# College Recruiting Plan by Season



## Fall

- Introduction Email with Fall Schedule
- Before each Tourney, send specific tournament schedule
  - Field, time, opponent
- After each Fall Tourney, send an update
  - Videos, stats, results if good
- At end of Fall, send summary email with compiled good video & stats
- Keep an eye out for Camps/Showcases

## Winter

- Introduction Email with Dome Schedule
- After each Dome week, send an update
  - Videos, stats, results if good
- At end of Winter, send summary email with compiled good video & stats
- Keep an eye out for Camps/Showcases

## Spring

- Introduction Email with Sections/State Schedule
- At end of High School season, send summary email with compiled good video & stats

**College Teams  
In Season**

## Summer

- Introduction Email with Summer Schedule
- Before each Tourney, send specific tournament schedule
  - Field, time, opponent
- After each Summer Tourney, send an update
  - Videos, stats, results if good
- At end of Summer, send summary email with compiled good video & stats
- Keep an eye out for Camps/Showcases



# COLLEGE CAMPS



- A's > Recruitment > College Camps to Attend
- Fall, Winter & Summer
- When attending Camps:
  - Wear Vortex/A's Uniform
  - Hustle everywhere
  - Ask questions
  - Answer the coaches' and players' questions
  - What can you do to get noticed?
    - Dive, Hit the ball hard, show off your speed, arm, glove, effort, IQ, love of the game, etc.
    - Show off your strengths
  - Get to know other campers & cheer them on
  - Eye Contact
  - At the end of the camp, introduce yourself to coaches, thank them for the camp, ask for feedback, ask questions, etc.
  - Email before and after



# EMAILING COLLEGE COACHES



- Subject Line: Your Name, Grad Year, Positions, Team
- Greet Coach(es) by name
- Introduce yourself
  - HS, Grad Year, Club Program, Club Team, Coaches, Positions
- Explain what you like about the school and program – Research this!
- Talk about yourself
  - Highlight reel/videos, GOOD stats, academic accomplishments
- Additional Items
  - Camps
  - Your Schedule
- Closing
  - Thank You, Name, Grad Year, Position, Team(s)
  - Coaches Names & Contact Info



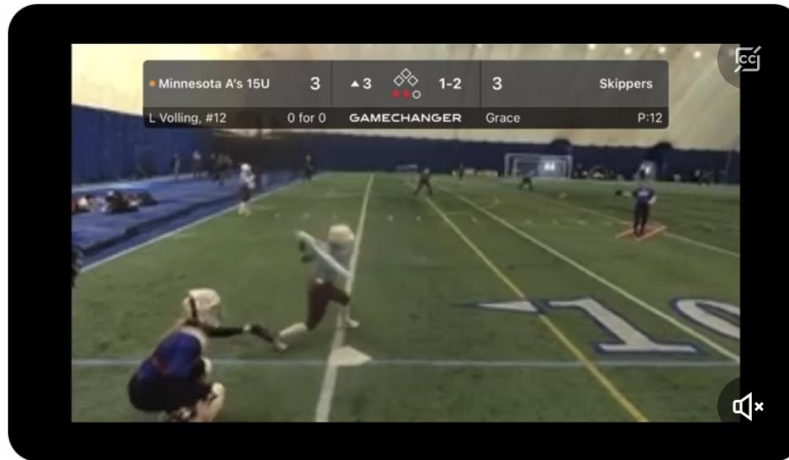
# RECRUITMENT SOCIAL MEDIA

- Twitter
- Instagram
- For Softball Only
- Tag Coaches that you've been in contact with

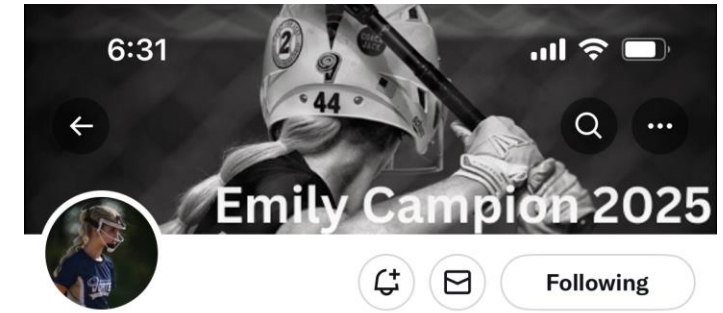


**Lauren Volling** @LaurenVolling12 · 2/6/23

I have been working hard this winter on sitting on off speed pitches and letting the ball travel more. Here's a clip of me sitting on an off speed pitch and driving a hard grounder up the middle. @NCAASoftball @CoastRecruits @TopPreps @LegacyLegendsS1 @ExtralnningSB



41 views



**Emily Champion**

@emilyscampion Follows you

2025 - Minnetonka High School - Minnesota A's 15U - RHP/OF - 4.12 GPA [emilyscampion@gmail.com](mailto:emilyscampion@gmail.com)

Sports, Fitness & Recreation Excelsior, MN

[sportsrecruits.com/athlete/emily...](https://sportsrecruits.com/athlete/emily...)

Joined February 2021

156 Following 66 Followers

Followed by izzy guttenfelder, whitley wischmeier, Lauren Volling, and 2 others

Tweets Tweets & replies Media Likes



**Emily Champion** @emilyscampion · 1/27/23

A series of strikeout pitches from this fall.



41 views

2 134



**Sports**Recruits

**MN Vortex & A's**

**EMPOWERING OUR STUDENT-ATHLETES TO PURSUE THEIR DREAMS**

**Sports**Recruits

# FEATURES

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## ACCESS TO EVERY COLLEGE COACH

From DI to DIII, PAC-12 to NESCAC, every coach is on SportsRecruits.



## NOTIFICATIONS

Receive emails and text messages when college coaches interact with your profile.



## UNLIMITED VIDEO FROM ANY SOURCE

Show college coaches your game. Upload or embed from Hudl, Vimeo, Youtube and more.



## IN-DEPTH ANALYTICS

Leverage our data to see the big picture and know where you stand.



## BUILT IN MESSAGING SYSTEM

Contact any college in the country in just a few clicks.



## SCHOOL SEARCH

Search by athletic, academic and geographic criteria to find your dream school.



## STUDENT-ATHLETE PROFILE

All of your athletic, academic and contact information in one place.



## TARGET LIST OF SCHOOLS

Build maintain and track progress with colleges on your list.



## ACTIVITY FEED

A real time feed of college coaches interactions with your profile, video and messages.

# PROFILE



- Be sure to have a fully filled out profile!

- Personal Info
- Labeled Videos
- Contact Info
- Personal Statement
- Stats
- Athletic Awards
- Academic Awards
- Events
- GPA
- Intended Major
- Test Scores
- Extracurricular Activities





# Wayne State College (NE)

Location: Wayne, NE

Division: NCAA DII

Conference: Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC)

[Visit Website](#)

Needs ▾



**ROSTER NEEDS**

COMMITTS

ATHLETICS

SCHOOL PROFILE

ADMISSIONS

COST

MAJORS

## Quick Facts

### ACADEMIC SELECTIVITY

Selective

### UNDERGRAD ENROLLMENT

2,913

### CONTROL/AFFILIATION

Public

## Roster Needs

What's this ?

This program is looking for athletes to fill open spots on their rosters. These needs below may contain additional academic and athletic criteria.

2023 1B

2023 3B

2023 C

2023 CF

2023 P

2023 SS

[View More Needs](#)

## Committed Athletes



Kennadi Borngrebe, 2023 ✓

Softball



Masyn Bunnell, 2023 ✓

Softball



Haylee Weber, 2023 ✓

Softball



Emilee Marth, 2023 ✓

Softball



Jordyn Klein, 2023 ✓

Softball



Payton Kincaid, 2023 ✓

Softball



# TESTIMONIAL



From one of our Vortex/A's athletes after attending a college softball camp:

"I definitely got noticed! I sent out an email to the coach before the camp, and she viewed my profile and all my videos. When I went to introduce myself, she knew who I was, which was awesome! After the camp, I went up and thanked the coach, and she expressed a lot of interest. She wants me to send her my schedule for this summer, keep sending her emails, and that they will be watching me!"

Athlete emails a college coach 5+ times over a 2+ year span. No response until Junior Year saying they're interested.





# SPORTSRECRUITS HIGHLIGHT REEL TOOL



- Built In Highlight Reel Editor
- 1 free Professional Highlight Reel Credit per year
- [Steps to Build a Professional Highlight Reel with SportsRecruits](#)
- [Examples](#)



# DIY SKILLS VIDEO



- Less than 3 minutes
- Prioritize first videos to be your strength
- Draw Attention
- Game Speed always
- Post Online & Send link to coaches
- Hitting (Side & Behind Views)
  - 3 reps each
  - Tees & Front Toss
- Infield (Front & Behind Views)
  - Grounders to Center, Forehand & Backhand
  - Diving always good
  - Throws to another player
  - Include Throws
- Outfield (Front & Behind Views)
  - Pop Ups & Grounders
  - Center & Forehands & Backhands
  - Include Throws
- Pitching (Side & Behind Views)
  - 3 reps each type & view
  - Movement pitches
  - Spots
- Catching (Front & Behind Views)
  - Framing
  - Blocking
  - Throwdowns to each base



# DIY HIGHLIGHT VIDEO

- Get Game Highlights
- Make Highlights for each season
  - Fall
  - Winter
  - High School
  - Summer
- Make Highlights for each weekend
  - Ex.- Best plays from Lexi Tourney
- Hitting (Hits, hard hits)
- Steals
- Defensive Plays
- Pitching (Movement, spots, change-ups, defensive plays)
- Catching (Frames, Blocks, Throwdowns, Bunts, Foul Balls)

## MN Vortex & A'S 2022 Stats

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**1,084**

ATHLETE  
LOGINS

**706**

MESSAGES BETWEEN  
VORTEX/A'S AND  
COLLEGE COACHES

**542**

FAVORITED  
SCHOOLS

**472**

COLLEGE COACH  
PROFILE VIEWS

**576**

COLLEGE COACH  
VIDEO VIEWS

**109**

UNIQUE COLLEGES  
INTERACTED WITH  
VORTEX/A'S  
ATHLETES

# MN VORTEX/MN A'S 2022 STATS **SR**



**1,048 PROFILE + VIDEO VIEWS**

**WERE GENERATED BY  
COLLEGES EVALUATING ATHLETES**

**542 FAVORITE SCHOOLS**

**WERE ADDED TO  
ATHLETES' TARGET LISTS**

**706 MESSAGES SENT**

**BY ATHLETES AND STAFF  
TO COLLEGE COACHES**

**139**

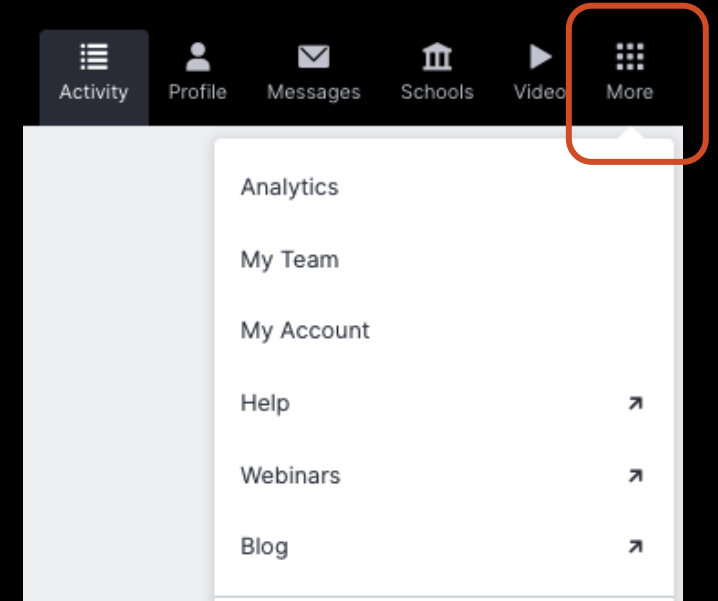
**19.7%**

**COLLEGE COACH  
EMAILS BACK**

# THE ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS



- Via email: [help@sportsrecruits.com](mailto:help@sportsrecruits.com)
- The MORE Section!
- Follow us on Instagram/Twitter for real time updates  
[@sports\\_recruits](#)
- [Recorded SportsRecruits 101 Webinar](#)
  - (enter your email and you are good to stream)
- [SportsRecruits Knowledge Base](#)



# RECORDED COLLEGE INFO SESSION



- Will be posted here



# FAQS

- Is it worth it to go to this camp/showcase?
  - If you're able to put in front of colleges on your list, you should consider attending
- Should we get a NCSA profile?
  - Don't need one



# PANEL



Rachael Click  
CSB Head Coach  
16U National Coach



Jordyn Thomas  
UMD 2018-2022  
Former MN A



Molly Gross  
SCSU Commit  
ARCC 2020-2022



Karen Balabon  
UWS Commit 2023



Anika Rogers  
BLC Commit 2023



Carly Stuckmayer  
UWS Commit 2023



THANK YOU!