

## **How to Use the Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

From the Desk of Patosha Jeffery, The Girls Basketball Trainer

Just to give you a little background on me. I've been involved in basketball as a player, coach and trainer since 1987. My skills were good enough to get me a full basketball scholarship to the University of Memphis. I've coached several young ladies that have earned basketball scholarships themselves. Schools like University of Colorado, Southern Mississippi, University of Florida, Ole Miss, Arkansas State, and Florida A&M.

I have a passion. Believe me. I have a passion for helping young ladies to excel in girls basketball and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to help you.

Remember to feel free to continue to visit my website, [www.girlsbasketballtrainer.com](http://www.girlsbasketballtrainer.com), for additional girls basketball resources to help you with your game, with your recruiting efforts and even with your academics. Because it is not all just about basketball. One day the basketball will stop bouncing. You will not be able to shoot another jump shot or you may not even want to shoot another jump shot. It will be time for you to rely

## **How to Use the Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

on something else that you have learned in school or on something that you have learned along the way during your career basketball.

I know you are wondering what makes me an expert in giving you this information. In high school, my dad and I were highly involved in my recruiting. We are the type of people that wants to know what's going on and that's something that I recommend to you. Know what's going on in your recruiting process. As a player you are the individual that has to go to that school and play basketball for that coach. You need to be aware of what's going on. You need to be aware of who is coming after you. It's just highly important. Don't just make a decision based on what someone else has said. This is something that you need to be involved in, highly involved in. So basically, we did it all. We did all the research. My dad attended all of my basketball games. He and my mom attended and recorded all of my games. One major thing was that my dad recorded the majority of my games, from junior high school to high school. I still have the recordings of my games. That is another tip: record your games. Sometimes a coach may not be able to see you or see you once. Have video to provide to coaches.

## **How to Use the Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

As a 10<sup>th</sup> grader, I began to receive letters from college coaches. And because of a letter from a college coach is when I learned that I needed to do something. It was basically one of the first years of the NCAA Clearinghouse or the NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse, which they have changed now to NCAA Eligibility Center. It was because of a letter that I received from a college coach telling me to make sure that I am registered through the Clearinghouse. It was because of that. They told me to go to my guidance counselor to get the form and they did not have the form. The clearinghouse was so new that the forms were not at my school. That's why I recommend that you know what's going on. Do not put all of this in one individual's hand, your coach. Know what's going on. You and your parents. That's one reason that qualifies me to give you this information.

Another reason I know I needed to share this information with you was when I became a coach, when I started coaching on the AAU Circuit or coaching AAU. I call it the Circuit when we started going to NCAA certified events. And I started working with these athletes. They did not have a clue. They did not have a clue on what to do. They did not have a clue on what they needed to make on the ACT. They did not have a clue about the

## **How to Use the Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

recruiting process. So I decided that this was some information I know that I need to provide out here for young ladies.

This is a passion that I have. This is something I've always wanted to do. I've always wanted to train young ladies and teach young ladies about basketball. But when I started coaching, I realized there was a lot of information that young ladies do not have on the high school level and I wanted to provide it, because it was something that I did for myself and researched for myself. And I wanted to make sure that I could do this for others because I saw that they needed it. That's why I'm doing this. I know this is information that kids need. Not only that. Parents started coming to me asking questions like: What do I do? What do I need to do to help my daughter go to college? What do I need to do to help my daughter get a college basketball scholarship? Even coaches were coming to me asking questions about what to do. So that's why I'm doing this.

## **How to Use the Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

### **Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

Visit <http://patoshajeffery.com/basketballrecruiting.htm> for the most current link to the web sites.

### NCAA-Certified Womens Basketball Events

This is something that has definitely increased over time. When I was in high school, the event I attended to get myself some national exposure was the Blue Star Camp. My first year attending the event was my 10th grade year. It was held at the University of Memphis. The next year I went to the event at Arkansas State University. One of the things you have to understand just playing basketball at your high school during the regular season is not enough. Let me tell you why. Collegiate coaches have a limited amount of days were they can come out and see players. So just playing during your school year is not enough. Now you have NCAA-Certified Women's Basketball Events were it is a specific period of times and the times are normally a weekend in April, a weekend in the fall, normally the end of September going into October, that weekend, were college coaches can come out and watch games.

## **How to Use the Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

Basically, what happens is an individual or an organization may sponsor a basketball tournament and they have to go through the NCAA and get the tournament certified, meaning that college coaches can come to this event during this time. So, what happens is college coaches come to these events in droves. I'm telling you there are hundreds of college coaches at these events. So if you want to put yourself on the national scene and be seen by several coaches at one time, you need to attend a NCAA-Certified Women's Basketball Event. And some of these events are for teams and some are for individuals. Some you have to be invited to. So go to this site and look at the listings of the events to find information about it. Contact the operator of the event. Go to the website of the event and see if this is something that you have to be part of a team of or something you have to be invited to. If you are in the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, or 10<sup>th</sup> grade, see what you have to do to be invited to the event. That's all you have to do is ask. How do I get invited to this event? If it is a team event, find out if your team is attending these events.

It use to be were AAU was the only thing going. Everybody wanted to be on an AAU team. From my experience, you don't necessarily have to be on an AAU team to be seen by a college coach. Basically what I've seen the main way to be seen by a college coach from an AAU team or by an AAU team is

## **How to Use the Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

you have to make it to the National Tournament and basically the AAU National Tournament is held during this time. Let me say something else. There are actually 3 time periods of the events. You have one in the spring which is around April. One in the fall which is September, Octoberish. And then there is the big summer events that's held a couple of weeks in July. July is normally when the AAU National Tournament is held.

NCAA-Certified Womens Events is something that you definitely need to be apart of if you want to be seen by dozens to hundreds of college coaches at one time. Like I said just playing basketball at your school during your season is simply not enough, if you want to have several opportunities to be seen by college coaches, you must attend an NCAA-Certified Womens basketball event. Go to this site find out the dates and where these events are located.

### NCAA Eligibility Center (formerly known as NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse

If you want to play college basketball at an NCAA Division 1 or 2 college or university, you have to be registered through the clearinghouse or now the Eligibility Center. This place verifies your initial academic eligibility to play

## **How to Use the Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

at a Division 1 or 2 school. When you start taking your ACT and it comes to your core courses and your grade point averages, you have to send all this information to this center. So it is important that you get on this site and research this information as early as possible. There are things you need to do as early as your freshman year of high school to make sure you are eligible to play college basketball.

### College-Bound Student Athlete Guide

This is the most important NCAA publication designed to help high school athletes and their families understand the NCAA rules for becoming a student-athlete in college. If you think you want to play college basketball and think you have the capabilities of playing college basketball, you need to get this guide as soon as possible. Don't even wait. If you are not even in high school right now, don't wait. If you are a 7<sup>th</sup> grader or 8<sup>th</sup> grader, get a jump on the requirements. You can go to this website and you can download the guide. It is a pdf file. You can download the guide to your computer right now.

Here is a breakdown of what's inside the guide:

What is the NCAA?

What is the NCAA-Eligibility Center?

Amateurism-Eligibility Requirements

## **How to Use the Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

Core Courses, Grade-Point Average, Tests

Students with Disabilities

GED

Eligibility Waivers

Questions to Ask College Coaches

NCAA Eligibility Resources

This site further breaks down initial eligibility and remaining eligible to play college basketball. This section provides information on becoming and remaining eligible to compete in intercollegiate athletics. It includes information on the NCAA Eligibility Center, as well as guidelines for students who are foreign, home schooled or disabled. It also contains links to resources that will help high school students locate colleges and universities that sponsor their sport and compare graduation rates of schools they are considering. That is important information right there; graduation rates of schools they are considering. When kids go off to these schools, do they graduate? That's important information to know. And another thing on this site, it has an NCAA transfer guide. What if you go through the recruiting process and get to a school and you decide that it is not the school for you. What are the rules for transferring? Can you transfer? What if you get to the school and the coach that recruited you decided to leave. What are the rules?

## **How to Use the Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

Do you have to go there? What are the rules on that? So this area basically talks about the eligibility process.

### NCAA Recruiting Resources

This is where you go to learn about the recruiting process. It provides information for student-athletes and coaches on recruiting rules and regulations. It includes links to convenient sport-specific calendars (recruiting calendar) as well as definitions of key recruiting-related terminology. You will also learn about the National Letter of Intent and financial aid.

### International Student-Athlete Resources

International student-athletes fall under a different set of rules. Frequently asked questions are available at this site. The guide to the International Academic Standards for Academic Eligibility and Definitions of Professional Athletics Team are available at this site.

### Women's Basketball Recruiting Calendar

Each year the NCAA comes out with the recruiting calendar. So that means it changes. The time periods change year by year of when a college basketball coach can contact you, when he or she absolutely can not contact

## **How to Use the Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

you, when he or she can come and evaluate your performance (watch you play a basketball game). There are specific times within a year that a college coach can do certain things. So this information is available to you so you can know if a coach is contacting you at the right time. Is the coach doing what he or she is supposed to be doing?

### Difference between a Division I, II and III NCAA School

I have had parents contact me and ask “what is the difference between these schools? The differences can be found here.

### NCAA Divisions I, II, III Sports Web Sites

Every major program has a sport web site. Go to the site, look for the Sports heading and click on Women's Basketball. So now you have the knowledge. You do not have to wait on a college coach to contact you and say whether they are a division I, II or III school. Now you already know. You have this information now.

### Women's Basketball Coaches Association

This site is last but definitely not least. This is where you can go and receive all kinds of news of what's going on in Women's basketball. You can learn about coaching changes. This is something I wish I would have had access

## **How to Use the Top 12 Women's College Basketball Recruiting Web Sites**

to a long time ago. There was a period of time when I wanted to become a college basketball coach and this site is definitely an awesome resource for that. Why is it an awesome resource for you? Study college basketball. If you want to play college basketball, study it. Know what's going on with these coaches, these schools and the NCAA. This site is an awesome resource that keeps you on top of the information on NCAA changes and coaching changes. You may find out that a coach that's recruiting you has left the school that they were recruiting you for. This is something you need to stay on top of. Another resource for women's college basketball news is ESPN.com and USATODAY.com.

### CONCLUSION

This site and the listings are not necessarily in a specific order. This is a resource that you can come back to over time. The first thing that I recommend you do is look at the Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete. The second thing that I recommend is to look at the NCAA-Certified Women's events. Learn about how you can attend one of the events. The third thing I recommend for you to do is look at the NCAA Recruiting Resources.