

Components of Recruiting Reform

July 1st Following a PSA's Junior Year

Propose to move the start of recruiting, in the sport of swimming & diving, back to a primary start date of July 1st following a PSA's junior year.

Key Dates:

- **Materials and nonathletic publications - Anytime**
- **Other recruiting materials - September 1st of a PSA's junior year**
- **Electronic correspondence - July 1st following a PSA's junior year**
- **Telephone calls - July 1st following a PSA's junior year**
- **Off-campus contact - July 1st following a PSA's junior year**
- **Unofficial visits - Anytime**
- **Official Visits - Opening day of classes of a PSA's senior year**
- **Evaluations and contacts - 7 recruiting opportunities per PSA. Not more than 3 may be contacts.**

Recruiting Calendar

Proposal aims to allow coaches to focus on their teams at key points in the season, allows current SAs a break from hosting at key points in the season and accommodates a wide range of program needs.

Shut-Down Period

December 24- The second Wednesday in January

- 60% of coaches want to focus on their team December-February.
- One third want to avoid recruiting in December (42%) and January (24%)
- MLK Day is important for hosting PSAs and recruiting restrictions should be lifted prior.
- This recommended Shut-Down period provides three full weeks of recruiting relief to coaches, SAs PSAs during a time when recruiting is already at a minimum.

Evaluation Period

Beginning Monday, the week of Women's NCAA's through Saturday of Men's NCAA's

- 67% want some limits during NCAA Championships
 - 57% of Autonomy prefer dead
 - 69% of Non-Autonomy prefer Quiet or Evaluation
- 51% want to attend March championship meets (Juniors, Sectionals, etc)

Shut-Down Period

One Week Following Men's NCAA Championship

- Effectively gives every coach and current SA one week following NCAA Championship

Official Visits / Off Campus Recruiting

In an August 2020 survey of coaches from FBS programs, limiting official visits and off-campus recruiting were the top two targets for cost savings, ranking ahead of reductions in competition dates, squad sizes, COA and travel.

Official Visits

Limit Teams to 24 Official Visits in a Calendar Year

- The majority of programs support limits on official visits with the most support among Autonomy programs (63%), followed by 53% of Non-Autonomy FBS programs and 49% of FCS/Non-Football programs
- The majority of all programs supported limiting official visits to student-athletes with support strongest among Autonomy programs (59%). Both Non-Autonomy FBS and FCS/MM programs (53%)
- Programs were generally consistent in their expectation of the maximum number of official visits per institution with the average ranging from 22.1 (Autonomy) to 23.4 (FCS/MM) per program. The median of responses ranged from 20 visits per team among Autonomy programs to 25 for all other programs.

Off-Campus Recruiting

Limit Coaches to 14 Days of Off-Campus Recruiting in a Calendar Year

- Nearly two-thirds (64%) of coaches supported limiting the number of days a coach would be permitted of recruit off-campus.
- Autonomy Programs recommended a maximum of 16.6 days of off-campus recruiting on average compared to 13.9 days among all other programs. The median number of days recommended ranged from 12 for Autonomy and FCS/MM programs to 14 for Non-Autonomy FBS programs.

The Complete Impact

The proposed recruiting timeline positively supports the entire swimming and diving community.

A later start to recruiting, combined with off-campus restrictions benefits NCAA's coaches. It supports a more sustainable workload and limits interruptions of their coaching responsibilities with current student-athletes. An established maximum of off-campus recruiting opportunities allows teams to effectively estimate recruiting budgets and potentially reduce cost for teams and their athletic departments.

A later start to the recruiting process is also the preference of prospects, their coaches and the National Governing Body (USA Swimming). Research of over 15,000 student-athletes was conducted by the SAEC. This research illustrates that swimming and diving student-athletes prefer to be recruited later than the dates currently in place. Pulled directly from their research:

- Swimming and diving student-athletes are among the latest PSA's to be recruited, with a majority of them beginning their process in their junior year of high school. When asked by the SAEC, 84% and 85% of male and female swimmers/divers, respectively, said they had a positive recruiting experience.
- It should be noted that swimmers and divers closely follow the same timeline as a non-student athlete.
- When asked by the SAEC, 77% and 84% of male and female swimmers/divers, respectively, said their recruiting timeline was either appropriate, *or should be later*.

