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4. HIGH SCHOOL TIMELINE

EVERY YEAR

September-October

- Settle into the school environment; get to work developing good classroom and home study habits. Learn to manage your time. You cannot play college baseball if you do not graduate high school with the grades required to get into college. School always comes first.
- Play fall baseball
- Long toss after school
- Run sprints and medium distance
- Follow a stretch and strength program

November-March

- Winter baseball training (12 weeks of Tiger classes)
- If possible target and attend one college holiday camp
- Pitchers follow the off season throwing program
- Keep working hard on those grades

April – May

- High school season (hustle, attitude, work ethic...set yourself apart)

June-July

- Summer league season
- Play as many summer baseball games as possible. The more you play the more experience that you will get and the more you should improve

August

- Register for fall ball

FRESHMAN

August

- Start learning about showcases and make contact with several of the directors, find out if they may be interested in including you in one of their events. The Rawlings Tigers website will be updated with showcase information as it becomes available. Other showcase information is readily available through internet searches. Please ask the Tiger staff if you have questions about showcases.
- Attend a college baseball program's weeklong camp or showcase, this gets you familiar with the process of a showcase and will get you ready for your junior and senior year with these events.

SOPHOMORE

August

- Learn about showcases and make contact with several of the directors, find out if they may be interested in including you in one of their events The Rawlings Tigers website will be updated with showcase information as it becomes available. Other showcase information is readily available through internet searches. Please ask the Tiger staff if you have questions about showcases.
- Attend a college baseball program's weeklong camp or showcase, this gets you familiar with the process of a showcase and will get you ready for your junior and senior year with these events.

September-October

- Continue to hit the books hard your grades this year count as much as any other year.
- Meet with your high school guidance department and tell him/her of your desire to play college baseball. You want to be on track with the required core courses.

February-March

- Start looking at information about colleges. Develop a list of what you are looking for and which schools look interesting to you. There is no need to go in depth at this time, just start to think about where you want to look next year.

JUNIOR

September-December

- Send out your first contact letters to college coaches
- Ask your high school coach to write letters to a few preferred colleges
- Register with the NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse online.
- Register for the fall ACT / SAT standardized tests ... most students take these tests at least twice. Try to avoid the spring dates, they may conflict with your high school season
- Request that your ACT/SAT test scores be sent to the NCAA Clearinghouse (there is a box on the application form that you check)
- Familiarize yourself with the NCAA admission / eligibility requirements NCAA Online*

January-February

- Send out your spring high school schedule to college coaches
- Prepare a video to be sent out when requested (do not send unsolicited videos)
- Upload your video and pictures on the Rawlings Tigers player profile website page
- Plan to visit as many schools as possible this spring and summer
- Some schools have Junior Days during the spring season ... write a letter to the coach and ask about them.
- All of these visits are unofficial. This means that the college cannot pay for any part of the visit.
- Make contact with showcase groups - Work on getting your information to them so you can get an invitation from them. The better showcases fill up fast.

June-July

THE SUMMER BETWEEN A PLAYER'S JUNIOR AND SENIOR YEAR IS VERY IMPORTANT

- Send out letters to college programs - Tell them about your high school junior year season - Sending stats is okay.
- Continue to update your Rawlings Tiger player profile page
- Focus this summer should be on attending Select or Advanced College Camps. In this environment you will be able to gauge yourself against some of the best players. The college coaches will be able to do the same.
- After July 1st, phone contact from college coaches is permissible
- July is Showcase month.
- Optional...Attend a Pro Try-Out Camp in your area -- these will be listed in the message section of your daily newspaper's sports section.

*From this point on in this packet, it is assumed that you have taken this step. We will use NCAA terminology without always including definitions.

SENIOR

September-October

- Review core academic requirements with your guidance counselor. Make sure you are on track
- Send out your fall baseball schedule college coaches
- If you do not think you will sign in the early National Letter of Intent (LOI) period, request information on Christmas camps. You especially want to target schools that you are most interested in or those that have shown an interest in you.
- This is a good time of year for more showcases. Direct target realistic options for you (Ex: if you are not getting D1 letters, do not attend the UCLA showcase). This does not mean you cannot play D1, it means if you do it will probably be more of a Midwestern program, stay realistic.

November-December

- Early signing period -- dates vary slightly from year to year.
- You can contact college coaches (by phone) at any time (prior to July after your Junior year they cannot call you)
- Continue your fall and winter schedule as you have in previous years
- If you are offered an official visit -- prepare for your visit with a list of prepared questions. Be prepared for any questions the college may have for you.
- Check NCAA regulations for details of what makes a visit official and what it entails.

January-February

- Send out your spring high school schedule to college coaches
- Prepare a video to be sent out when requested (do not send unsolicited videos)
- Upload your video and pictures on the Rawlings Tigers player profile website page
- Plan visits to schools that you still need to see

June-July

- Send out letters to college programs - Tell them about your high school senior year season - Sending stats is okay.