

# RECRUITMENT RESOURCE

WINTRUST

NEW ERA

26 JACOB HURTUBISE  
LF

AB	34	AVG	.208
HR	0	RBP	.317
HR	3	SLG	.239
R	5	OPS	.552

11 START

APP	2
IP	16.1
ERA	4.35
SO	9.22
WHIP	1.41

PITCH COUNT 15

UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

2ND-HIT BY PITCH  
4TH-FLUED TO RIGHT

WIBGLEYBROOKTOPS.COM

# FIND YOUR TEAM: THE 2026–2027 COLLEGE BASEBALL RECRUITING GUIDE

*A REAL-WORLD GUIDE FOR HIGH SCHOOL PLAYERS,  
JUCOS, TRANSFERS, PARENTS, AND COACHES WHO WANT  
TO FIND THE RIGHT FIT — BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.*

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# CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

The college baseball recruiting process can be overwhelming, frustrating, and full of dead ends – especially if you're not a five-star prospect with scouts at every game. But here's the truth: *there are still hundreds of college programs actively recruiting right now, looking for players just like you.*

That's why we created College Baseball Openings – to give serious players, parents, coaches, and recruiting services a direct path to real opportunities.

**This guide is your roadmap. Whether you're:**

- A 2026 senior still searching for the right fit
- A 2027 junior getting a jump on recruiting early
- A JUCO or postgrad player trying to make the leap
- A transfer exploring better options
- Or a parent, AAU coach, or recruiting service supporting a player

... this guide will show you how to find the right college, avoid wasted time, and take real steps toward your next level.

## In this book, we'll break down:

- What coaches are looking for (and what they're not)
- How to avoid the most common mistakes players make
- Tactical strategies for each type of player
- How to use tools like College Baseball Openings to save time and increase your chances

No fluff. Just practical, real-world advice based on what's working right now – in 2026 and beyond.

**Let's help you Find Your Team.**



## CHAPTER 2: UNDERSTANDING TODAY'S RECRUITING LANDSCAPE

The recruiting game has changed – and fast. Gone are the days when simply “playing hard” and “getting seen” were enough. Today, the path to college baseball is shaped by real-time recruiting needs, the transfer portal, and a digital-first communication model.

Whether you're a high school junior, senior, JUCO player, or transfer, you need to understand the current landscape to make smart decisions – and avoid wasting time.

### The Transfer Portal Changed Everything

The biggest shift? The transfer portal. College coaches now prioritize proven college players over incoming freshmen. That means:

- Fewer scholarships for high school seniors
- More focus on players who can contribute immediately
- Coaches wait longer to fill roster spots – sometimes into spring and even summer

#### **What this means for you:**

*You need to target schools actively recruiting your position, not blast out mass emails hoping someone notices you.*

## ✦ Pitching and Position Needs Are Sharpened Like Never Before

Most teams aren't just looking for "a pitcher." They're seeking:

- A sinker-slider righty who can induce ground balls and control the strike zone
- A left-handed setup reliever with high strikeout-to-walk ratio
- A defensive-minded outfielder who can cover ground, track fly balls, and hit for contact

If you haven't honed your identity – and coaches haven't seen you in that role – it's a missed opportunity. That's why College Baseball Openings exists: to match your specific skill set with the exact programs looking for it, today.

## 🧠 What Coaches Actually Want (and What They Don't)

*Coaches care about:*

- Film (not highlights – full game if possible)
- Character and work ethic
- Grades and eligibility
- Position-specific value
- Coachable attitude

*What they don't care about:*

- Hype
- Rankings that don't match your actual impact
- Emails with no film, no context, or no plan

## Timing Is Everything

Many players miss out because they don't act until it's too late.

Recruitment doesn't end when the season ends – some programs still recruit in July or August, especially D2, D3, NAIA, and JUCO.

You can't afford to wait and hope.

You need to be in the know – every day, not every few months.

### KEY TAKEAWAY:

**THE RECRUITING WORLD ISN'T BROKEN – IT'S JUST FASTER, MORE COMPETITIVE, AND MORE SPECIFIC THAN EVER BEFORE.**

### **The good news?**

With the right information, the right strategy, and the right timing – you can still find your team.

## CHAPTER 3: THE SMART PLAYER'S STRATEGY (BY ROLE)

Every player's path is different – and so is their recruitment strategy.

A high school junior shouldn't be doing the same things as a JUCO player, and a transfer needs to think differently than a senior who hasn't gotten an offer yet.

This chapter breaks down exactly what to focus on depending on who you are – so you can stop guessing and start acting.

**FOCUS ON  
YOUR GOALS  
STRATEGY**




## a. High School Juniors (Class of 2027)

**Your goal:** *Get ahead of the game.*

You're not too early – you're right on time. Coaches are watching juniors, especially through Coach's Insider Openings – early notifications that show what they'll need next year.

### **What to do now:**

- Start gathering game film (full games, not just highlights)
- Build a short player resume (height, position, GPA, stats, accolades)
- Use College Baseball Openings to track which schools are already recruiting 2027 pitchers, catchers, or shortstops
- Create a short, respectful email template you can personalize and send with your film
- Let your AAU and high school coaches know what level you're aiming for – so they can align with you

 **PLAY THE LONG GAME – BUT PLAY IT SMART NOW. THE EARLIER YOU SHOW UP IN A COACH'S INBOX, THE MORE FAMILIAR YOUR NAME BECOMES BY SENIOR YEAR.**


## b. High School Seniors (Class of 2026)

**Your goal:** *Move fast – but strategically.*

This is your final year to lock in a spot at the college level. But panic leads to wasted energy – spamming 200 schools won't get you recruited.

### **What to do now:**

- Focus ONLY on schools actively recruiting your position
- Use College Baseball Openings daily – look for your position and level you want
- Send clean, professional messages with links to your full game film
- Avoid long bios – coaches don't have time
- Reach out multiple times over 2–3 weeks if needed – politely

 **THIS IS YOUR TIME TO BE AGGRESSIVE – BUT FOCUSED. ACT LIKE A PRO. COACHES WILL NOTICE.**

## c. Postgrad Players

**Your goal:** *Maximize your second chance.*

You've committed extra time to get better. Now it's about connecting with the right fit, not just any program.

### **What to do now:**

- Keep updating film – coaches want to see your growth from high school
- Treat every interaction as a chance to show maturity
- Use College Baseball Openings to find programs still building into the spring
- Ask your postgrad coach to vouch for you directly (if they haven't already)

 **YOU'RE BEING WATCHED NOT JUST FOR TALENT – BUT FOR GROWTH AND ATTITUDE. SHOW THEM BOTH.**

## d. JUCO Players Transitioning to 4-Year Programs

**Your goal:** *Get seen without wasting time.*

JUCO players are valuable – you’ve been coached, you’ve competed, and you know the system. But not every school is looking for a JUCO transfer at your position.

### **What to do now:**

- Use College Baseball Openings to track 4-year schools recruiting for your exact position
- Highlight your college-level stats + full-game film
- Include eligibility status and GPA clearly
- Be honest about your role expectations – coaches value transparency

 **EFFICIENCY IS KEY. GO ONLY WHERE YOU’RE NEEDED.**

## e. Transfers (Portal Players)

**Your goal:** *Find a better fit, not just another team.*

Coaches love transfers – but they’re also cautious.

### **They want to know:**

- Why you’re transferring
- That you’re eligible and ready to contribute
- That you’re not bringing drama

### **What to do now:**

- Keep your message short and direct: where you played, your position, and why you’re looking for a new opportunity
- Include full-game film and stats
- Use College Baseball Openings to find programs actively rebuilding or filling late-season gaps
- Be professional. Don’t bash your old coach. Keep it focused on the future.

 **YOU’RE NOT STARTING OVER – YOU’RE UPGRADING. LET COACHES FEEL THAT IN YOUR COMMUNICATION.**

# CHAPTER SUMMARY

## ✓ Chapter Summary:

- Know your role
- Know your value
- Know who's actually recruiting you

Use College Baseball Openings not as a guessing game – but as a strategic recruitment resource to take real steps forward.



## CHAPTER 4: PARENTS – YOUR ROLE IN THE PROCESS

Your son is chasing a dream – and whether you're driving him to practice, paying for gear, or just trying to help him get recruited, you're an essential part of that journey.

But here's the hard truth: *college baseball recruiting has become more competitive, more complex, and more digital.*

The best thing you can do as a parent isn't to send 100 emails – it's to help your athlete stay organized, focused, and ready.

This chapter will show you how to help without taking over, and how to use tools like College Baseball Openings to make the process more manageable for both of you.



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## 🎯 1. Help Your Son Set Realistic Goals

Not every player is D1 – and that’s okay. Some players are better suited for D2, D3, NAIA, or JUCO. The right fit matters more than the division name.

### Talk about:

- Academics (GPA, test scores, major interests)
- Role expectations (starter vs. role player)
- Distance from home
- Playing style and coach fit

🎯 **IT’S NOT ABOUT CHASING HYPE – IT’S ABOUT FINDING THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITY WHERE HE CAN GROW AND CONTRIBUTE.**



## 📌 2. Use College Baseball Openings to Focus the Search

Most players waste time emailing schools that aren't even recruiting. You can help prevent that.

### Use College Baseball Openings to:

- Look for openings by position (pitcher, catcher, infielder, etc.)
- Look for openings by level (JUCO, D2, NAIA, etc.)
- Identify schools that are actively recruiting your class

You'll save time, stress, and money by helping your athlete focus on schools where there's a real need.



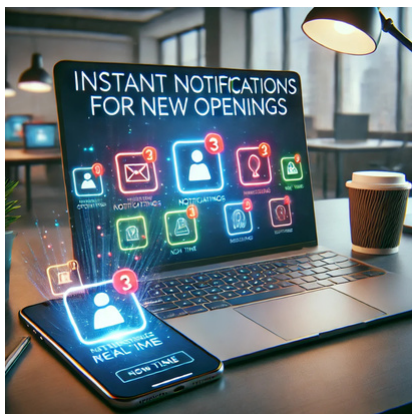
### 3. Help Create or Review Emails – But Let Him Send Them

Coaches want to hear from the player – not the parent. That said, you can still help behind the scenes.

#### **Support your son by:**

- Reviewing spelling and tone
- Helping organize a list of schools to contact
- Keeping a spreadsheet of when messages are sent and who replies

 **LET YOUR SON SEND THE EMAILS AND FOLLOW UP. IT BUILDS CONFIDENCE AND SHOWS INITIATIVE – QUALITIES COACHES RESPECT.**



#### 4. Teach Time Management & Emotional Resilience

The recruiting process can be emotional. Your son might not hear back from schools he was excited about. He might feel overlooked.

##### **You can:**

- Keep him focused on the next step, not the last disappointment
- Remind him it only takes one “yes”
- Help him balance school, training, and outreach
- Encourage gratitude, not comparison

 **USE YOUR PARENTING SKILLS TO PASS ON THE USEFUL SKILLS YOU HAVE ALREADY LEARNED.**



## 💰 5. Save Money on Applications & Travel

Randomly applying to schools or attending unnecessary showcases gets expensive – fast.

### College Baseball Openings lets you:

- Target schools that are already recruiting his position
- Avoid applying to schools with full rosters
- Focus travel or visits on serious opportunities

🎯 **IT'S NOT JUST MORE EFFICIENT – IT'S MORE AFFORDABLE.**



## 6. Stay in the Loop with Notifications

As a parent, you can also stay informed. Set up browser notifications through College Baseball Openings so you'll know when new opportunities are posted – especially for his position or class year.

It's a great way to stay involved without micromanaging the process.

 **STAY IN THE LOOP AND NEVER MISS A COLLEGE BASEBALL OPPORTUNITY.**



# CHAPTER SUMMARY

## ✔ Chapter Summary:

You're not just a parent – you're part of the recruiting team.

By helping your son stay focused, informed, and ready to act, you give him the best chance to succeed – without burning out or missing the right fit.

Use the tools available, stay organized, and most of all: *stay supportive.*

## 💡 Want to help your son without wasting time or money?

Use College Baseball Openings to track daily opportunities, target real programs recruiting his position, and stay informed – without taking over the process.

✔ Join today and let us handle the openings so you can focus on support, academics, and smart choices.

[🔗 Join College Baseball Openings – Start Helping Smarter](#)

# CHECKLIST

## ✔ Parent Checklist: Supporting Your Athlete's Recruiting Journey

Use this list to stay involved – without taking over.

## 🎯 Goal Setting

- Talk with your son about realistic college goals
- Discuss preferred division level(s)
- Identify academic, geographic, and financial priorities

## 📌 Research & Tools

- Help create a shortlist of schools using College Baseball Openings
- Set up daily notifications for your son's position or class
- Review school profiles: cost, program, location, roster need

# CHECKLIST

## **Communication Support**

- Review email messages for clarity and professionalism
- Ensure your son is sending emails personally
- Track outreach and replies in a simple spreadsheet

## **Mental & Academic Support**

- Encourage him during quiet periods (no offers yet)
- Help manage time for training, school, and outreach
- Remind him one "yes" is all it takes – stay focused

## **Save Time & Money**

- Only apply to schools actively recruiting
- Avoid random showcases or mass application fees
- Prioritize opportunities where coaches have expressed interest

## CHAPTER 5: COACHES – HELPING YOUR PLAYERS FIND THEIR FIT

Whether you're a high school coach balancing teaching, practice, and game film – or an AAU coach navigating multiple seasons and rosters – one thing is constant: *players look to you for guidance when it's time to get recruited.*

And as you already know, you don't always have the time, data, or up-to-date info to give every player the help they deserve.

That's where College Baseball Openings becomes your ally – saving you time, reducing guesswork, and connecting your players with coaches actively recruiting their position right now.

## 🕒 1. Save Time Without Sacrificing Support

Recruitment takes time. Phone calls. Emails. Research. Coach-to-coach communication. With dozens of players and limited hours in the day, it's easy to fall behind.

### College Baseball Openings gives you:

- Daily updates of open college roster spots by position
- Clear class year, level, and position needs
- One-click access to coach contact info and team pages

 **THE RESULT: YOU CAN HELP MORE PLAYERS – FASTER – WITH LESS EFFORT.**



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## 2. Send Players Where They're Actually Wanted

Not every school is recruiting every position – and not every player fits every program. Helping your athlete succeed means guiding them to a place where they can actually contribute.

### **With our resource, you can:**

- See exactly which schools are recruiting pitchers, catchers, or shortstops etc.
- Avoid sending players to programs with full rosters
- Match players to programs that fit their skill set and role

 **SMART REFERRALS BUILD TRUST – AND LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS WITH COLLEGE COACHES.**

### 3. Help Transfers and JUCO Players Land Softly

If you're coaching JUCO or have players in the portal, you know how overwhelming it can be to sort through potential fits.

#### **College Baseball Openings allows you to:**

- Track openings at 4-year schools still seeking JUCO talent
- Help transfer players find fresh starts without wasted outreach
- Stay updated on programs that are late-fillers or building after turnover

**⚡ WHEN TIME IS SHORT AND URGENCY IS HIGH – YOU NEED CLEAR OPTIONS FAST.**



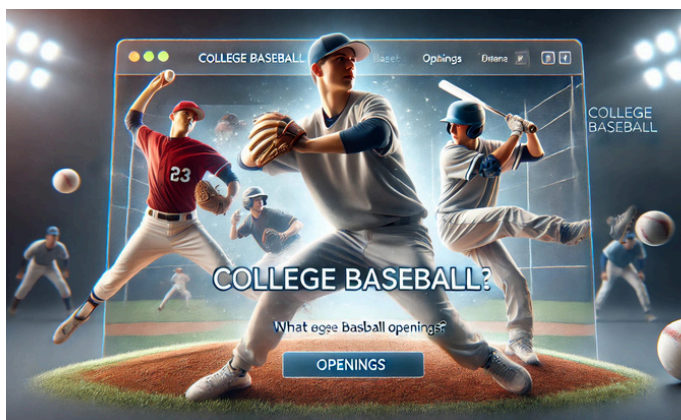
## 4. International and Showcase Coaches: Broaden Your Reach

If you run international clubs or showcases, you're often the bridge between a player and their future.

### Our resource helps you:

- Show your athletes real opportunities
- Promote your events with data-backed credibility
- Identify programs still actively recruiting unsigned players

 **IT'S NO LONGER ABOUT EXPOSURE ALONE – IT'S ABOUT MATCHING PLAYERS WITH SCHOOLS WHO ARE READY NOW.**



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# CHAPTER SUMMARY

## ✔ Chapter Summary:

You're more than a coach – you're a connector, mentor, and guide.

Let College Baseball Openings lighten the load.

Let your players shine where they're needed.

Let us help you keep the focus where it belongs – on coaching and development.

## 💡 Want to help more players in less time?

Use College Baseball Openings to quickly identify programs that fit your players – with contact info, roster needs, and daily updates at your fingertips.

[🔗 Join Now – Start Matching Your Players Smarter.](#)

# CHECKLIST

## **Coach's Checklist: Supporting Players Without Losing Time**

Use this checklist to streamline your role in recruitment and match players with the right schools efficiently.

### **Recruitment Readiness**

- Confirm each player's GPA, graduation year, and eligibility
- Collect full-game film (not just highlights)
- Create a simple player resume (height, position, stats, contact info)
- Identify player's target level (D1, D2, D3, JUCO, NAIA)

### **Smart School Matching**

- Use College Baseball Openings to find real-time roster needs by position
- Look for class year (2026, 2027, etc.) and level
- Share school info only when they are actually recruiting that position
- Avoid recommending schools that aren't active (protects your credibility)

# CHECKLIST

## **Streamlined Outreach**

- Help players craft a short, clear email with film + resume
- Only contact schools that are listed on College Baseball Openings
- Save coach contact info from listings for quick follow-up
- Track responses and update outreach plans weekly

## **Time-Saving Workflow**

- Schedule 1x/week to review new openings
- Use notifications to stay updated without logging in daily
- Reuse core outreach templates across multiple players
- Focus energy on coaching – not chasing outdated info

## **Pro Tip:**

Referrals to the right schools build stronger college relationships, increase success stories, and make your program more respected long-term.

## CHAPTER 6: SHOWCASE ORGANIZERS & RECRUITING SERVICES – STAND OUT WITH REAL VALUE

If you're running showcases or working for a recruiting service, you're not just managing talent – you're managing expectations, timelines, and pressure from every direction.

Parents want results.

Athletes want visibility.

Coaches want the right fit.

And you?

**You need a way to deliver real outcomes, not just exposure.**

That's where College Baseball Openings becomes your secret weapon.



## 🎯 1. More Than Exposure – Deliver Actual Opportunities

You've done the hard part: *attracting talent, organizing events, building your network.*

Now imagine pairing that exposure with real-time data:

- Which colleges are still recruiting in May?
- Which D2 schools still need Arms?
- Which NAIA programs are open to JUCO transfers?

Instead of telling parents “we’ll help get your son noticed,” you can now say:

“Here’s a list of schools actively recruiting players just like him – right now.”

💡 That’s value they can feel.




## 2. Save Time, Increase Placements


Recruiting services are often overloaded.

Too many players. Not enough time.

**Instead of emailing hundreds of coaches blindly, use College Baseball Openings to:**

- Focus only on programs actively recruiting
- Look by class year, level, or position
- Get direct contact info and team links instantly

 This improves your placement rate – and reduces burnout.

 **DON'T EMAIL LIKE YOU'RE THROWING DARTS AT A DART BOARD IN A DARK ROOM. USE COLLEGE BASEBALL OPENINGS AND BE PRECISE WITH YOUR TIME.**


### 3. Boost Your Showcase Reputation

Showcase organizers are judged on two things:

1. The quality of athletes they attract
2. The opportunities those athletes get after the event

#### **When you use College Baseball Openings:**

- You can send post-event updates to coaches based on real needs
- You can attract more serious athletes who want real exposure
- You build a name for providing outcome-based events

 **USE THE RESOURCE BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER YOUR SHOWCASE TO SHOW YOU'RE DIALED INTO WHAT COLLEGE COACHES ACTUALLY WANT.**

## 4. Expand Your Global Reach

If you're helping international athletes or transfers:

- Use College Baseball Openings to highlight specific matches
- Create data-backed recruiting reports for families
- Skip cold emails – go straight to open programs

 **THE CLEARER YOUR MATCH PROCESS, THE MORE YOUR REFERRALS GET RESPECTED BY COACHES.**



# CHAPTER SUMMARY

## Chapter Summary:

If you're selling exposure, add execution.  
If you're promising results, show real-time options.

If you're helping players – prove it with data.

Whether you're a showcase organizer or a high-volume recruiter, College Baseball Openings gives you the tools to deliver.

## Help More Players Get Seen – and Signed

Use real-time college roster openings to improve your events, increase successful placements, and separate yourself from the rest.

[!\[\]\(52bf2d3ad6161796fa8d42c289183aca\_img.jpg\) Join College Baseball Openings Now – and Deliver Real Recruiting Outcomes.](#)




## CHAPTER 7: HOW TO USE COLLEGE BASEBALL OPENINGS LIKE A PRO

Knowing what to do with opportunity is as important as finding it. Here's how to make the most of every opening we post — and turn it into real recruitment traction.

### **Step 1: Log In and Browse Today's Openings**

Once you're a member, head to the Openings Page.

You'll see daily college openings posted:

-  Class Year (2026, 2027, Transfers)
-  Position (Arms, Catchers, INF)
-  Division Level (D1, D2, D3, NAIA, JUCO)

These are real-time needs from college baseball coaches still looking to recruit.

## 📌 Step 2: Find Your Best Fits

Don't waste time on random schools.  
Use the titles of the college opening post to:

- ✅ Match your position and class
- ✅ See schools that meet your academic level
- ✅ Are looking for your GPA
- ✅ Are looking for your characteristics





💡 This is how you save time, money, and effort – and avoid dead ends.

**FIND THE TITLES THAT MATCH WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR AND CLICK IN TO SEE ALL THE OPENING DETAILS.**



### Step 3: Reach Out with the Right Message

#### Every opening includes:

-  What the coach is looking for (position, class, role)
-  Coach contact info
-  Link to team website and roster
-  Head coach name and credentials

Use this to write a short, direct email.

#### Example:

Coach [Last Name],  
My name is [Your Name], a [Height] [Position]  
in the class of 2026 with a [GPA] GPA.

I saw you're still recruiting for my position on  
College Baseball Openings. Here's my game  
film and academic info below. I'd love to  
connect and learn more about your program.

Film: [Link]

Resume: [PDF or link]

Thanks for your time!

– [Your Full Name]

## Step 4: Follow Up Weekly

Recruiting moves fast – so should you.

### Log in at least once per week to:


- Check new openings for your position
- Send 3–5 targeted emails each time
- Keep notes on replies and interest
- Adjust your targets as new schools post

 **WANT LESS MANUAL WORK?  
TURN ON NOTIFICATIONS SO YOU NEVER MISS  
A NEW MATCH.**

## Step 5: Track Progress + Stay Focused

Use a simple spreadsheet (or notebook) to track, for example:

Date	School	Contact	Response	Notes
June 12	Wilton College	Coach Smith	Yes – Requested film	NAIA, Iowa, needs guard

 **FINAL TIP: ONE YES CHANGES EVERYTHING  
YOU DON'T NEED 100 OFFERS. YOU JUST NEED ONE SCHOOL  
TO SAY YES. STAY FOCUSED. STAY ORGANIZED. LET COLLEGE  
BASEBALL OPENINGS DO THE LEGWORK – SO YOU CAN  
FOCUS ON GAME FILM, GRADES, AND GROWTH.**

## CHAPTER 8: COMMON RECRUITING MISTAKES TO AVOID

Recruiting is full of unknowns, but some mistakes are avoidable – and they’re made over and over again by players, parents, and even coaches. Avoiding these pitfalls could be the difference between landing an offer... and getting left behind.

### 🚫 1. Waiting Too Long to Get Started

Procrastination kills more recruitment journeys than talent ever will.

Many athletes wait until senior year – or even spring – to get serious.

#### 👉 Start in junior year.

College Baseball Openings gives you access to “Coach’s Insider” early listings – which are specifically for 2026 and 2027 classes.

### 🚫 2. Mass Emailing Every Coach

Blindly emailing 200+ coaches without checking if they’re recruiting your position is one of the fastest ways to get ignored – or marked as spam.

✅ Instead, target schools actively looking for your position and class, like the ones posted daily on College Baseball Openings.

### 🚫 3. Sending Weak, Generic Emails

“Hey coach, I’m interested in your program” won’t cut it.

- ✓ Personalize each message.
- ✓ Include film, resume, and a reason why you’re a fit.
- ✓ Keep it short and direct – coaches are busy.

### 🚫 4. Focusing Only on D1

So many talented players miss opportunities because they’re stuck chasing D1 offers that might never come – or aren’t the right fit

- ✓ D2, D3, NAIA, and JUCO all offer real paths to the next level, scholarships, and future transfers.
- ✓ The right fit matters more than the logo on the jersey.

### 🚫 6. Ignoring Academics

If you’re not eligible, you’re not getting recruited – it’s that simple.

- ✓ Know the academic requirements for NCAA, NAIA, and JUCO.
- ✓ Keep your grades and test scores strong.
- ✓ Mention your GPA in your emails – it helps!

## 🚫 7. Trying to Do It All Alone

Whether you're a player, parent, or coach – you don't need to guess your way through this.

- ✅ Use College Baseball Openings to simplify the process.
- ✅ Rely on the daily updates and real-time info to move efficiently and confidently.

**AVOID THE PITFALLS. FOCUS ON WHAT WORKS. GET REAL-TIME OPENINGS, LOOK FOR YOUR POSITION AND CLASS, AND SKIP THE TRIAL-AND-ERROR PROCESS.**

[🔗 START NOW – SEE WHO'S STILL RECRUITING!](#)



# CHAPTER SUMMARY

Smart recruiting isn't just about what you do – it's also about what you avoid.

**By steering clear of these common mistakes, you'll stand out in all the right ways – and stay focused on getting real results.**








# CHAPTER 9: BUILDING YOUR OUTREACH PLAN


You've found real openings. Now it's time to contact the right coaches – the right way.

This chapter helps you build a simple but powerful outreach system to get real attention (and real replies).

## **Step 1: Define Your Target List**

Start with 15–30 schools that match:

-  Your position
-  Your class year (2026, 2027, or transfer)
-  Your academic level
-  Your location preferences
-  Your playing style and goals (minutes, role, major)

 Use College Baseball Openings to generate your personal school list fast.

## Step 2: Create a Strong Outreach Message

Keep it personal, short, and specific.

### **Email Template:**

Subject: 2026 Catcher Interested – [Your Name]

Hi Coach [Last Name],

I'm a [Height] [Position] in the Class of 2026 with a [GPA] GPA. I heard that your program is recruiting my position.

I'm very interested in your team and would love to share my film and resume below:

 Game Film: [link]

 Player Resume: [link or attachment]

Thanks for your time,  
[Your Full Name]  
[Phone Number]

**EMAIL HEADLINES CAN BE USED TO ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF COLLEGE BASEBALL COACHES RECRUITING YOUR POSITION. MAKE THEM SNAPPY.**

### **17 Step 3: Build a Weekly Routine**

Success is about consistency – not just one big email blast.

#### **Your Weekly Routine:**

Day	Task
Monday	Log in to College Baseball Openings and find 3–5 new targets
Tuesday	Send emails to those 3–5 programs
Thursday	Follow up with anyone who hasn't replied after 7+ days
Friday	Update your tracker and prep for next week

**💡 EVEN 15–20 MINUTES A DAY ADDS UP TO POWERFUL RESULTS OVER TIME.**



## Step 4: Track Everything

*Use a simple tracker like this:*

School	Coach Contacted	Date Emailed	Follow-Up Sent	Reply Received	Notes
Ashland U	Coach Trent	May 10	May 17	Yes – Requested film	NAIA, fits major

 **PRO TIP: USE COLOR CODES FOR FAST VISUAL CHECKS (GREEN = RESPONDED, RED = NO REPLY, YELLOW = FOLLOW-UP NEEDED)**

## Step 5: Be Persistent, Not Pushy

Following up is not being annoying – it’s professional.

- Wait 5–7 days before following up
- Keep it short: “Just checking in to see if you had a chance to review my info.”
- Stop after 2–3 messages if no reply and move on

There are thousands of teams. Focus on finding the right one.

### **Bonus: Expand Your Plan**

After a few weeks, look at what's working:

- Which coaches reply?
- Which emails are getting ignored?
- Do you need to expand your list to new levels (JUCO, D2, D3)?
- Are there showcase events or highlight updates you can include?

Keep improving your outreach each month – and let College Baseball Openings do the heavy lifting.

### **Chapter Checklist**

- Made a target list of 15–30 schools
- Created a personal email template
- Scheduled weekly recruiting tasks
- Built a tracker
- Committed to 4+ emails per week
- Turned on daily College Baseball Openings alerts

 **WANT A FASTER WAY TO BUILD YOUR OUTREACH SYSTEM?**

 **[JOIN TODAY AND START YOUR PLAN.](#)**

## CHAPTER 10: WHAT COACHES ARE REALLY LOOKING FOR

Players often think recruitment is just about numbers – points per game, height, vertical. But that’s only part of the story. Coaches recruit based on fit, need, and potential – not just stats. Let’s break down what really matters behind the scenes.


### 1. Positional Fit

The #1 question a coach asks before recruiting is:

*“Do we need a player at this position?”*

If the answer is no, it doesn’t matter how good you are.

If the answer is yes, you’ve got a real shot – even if you’re not a 5-star prospect.

 Use College Baseball Openings to find schools actively recruiting your position right now.

## 2. Mentality and Attitude

Coaches don't just watch how you play. They watch:

- Your body language after mistakes
- How you respond to coaching
- How you support teammates
- Whether you talk back, give up, or make excuses

*"We can teach skills – we can't teach effort, attitude, or accountability." - College Coaches.*

**REMEMBER: YOU ARE ALWAYS BEEN ASSESSED AS A POTENTIAL RECRUIT - ON & OFF THE COURT.**

## 3. Academic Standing

Grades matter. Period.

- Coaches want to know you'll stay eligible
- Admissions offices want to know you can get in
- Scholarship committees want to know you're worth the investment

✓ Mention your GPA and test scores in your first email.

✓ Stay above the minimums – especially for D1 and D2.

#### 4. Coachability and Communication

Are you easy to talk to?

Do you take feedback well?

Can you follow instructions and stay humble?

*“I don’t recruit headaches.” - College Coach.*

If you're professional, polite, and consistent, coaches notice.

- Follow up respectfully
- Respond to messages clearly
- Thank them for their time

#### 5. Versatility and Role Acceptance

Some coaches want hitters. Some want strong arms. Some want glue guys who don't care about stats. Be clear about your strengths – but also show you're willing to fit a system.

*“I’m willing to do whatever the team needs to win”*

... is one of the most powerful lines in recruiting.

## 6. Growth Mindset

Coaches look for players who are still improving – and want to be coached hard.

### **Talk about your goals:**

“I’ve been working on my swing mechanics all summer.”

“I’ve added 10 pounds of muscle and improved my throwing velocity since last season.”

This tells coaches you're serious – not entitled.

**ONLY TALK ABOUT THE THINGS YOU HAVE DONE NOT THE THINGS YOU HAVEN'T.**

## 7. Film That Matches the Hype

Stats are great – but film never lies.

### Include short, sharp clips showing:

- Defense (yes, defense matters!)
- Hustle plays
- Court vision
- Role execution
- Shooting form (if applicable)

# CHAPTER SUMMARY

## ✔ Chapter Summary: What Coaches Want

Trait	Why It Matters
Positional Fit	Coaches only recruit what they need
Mentality & Attitude	No drama, no excuses
Academics	Stay eligible, stay enrolled
Coachability	Makes life easier for staff
Role Acceptance	Team-first players thrive
Growth Mindset	Shows you're still improving
Strong Film	Back up your message with tape

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PERFECT — JUST PREPARED.  
LET COLLEGE BASEBALL OPENINGS HELP YOU SHOW UP IN THE  
RIGHT INBOX WITH THE RIGHT MESSAGE.**




**[!\[\]\(746ea21c768a4bea53e0422dbea5d231\_img.jpg\) JOIN NOW AND GET NOTICED.](#)**


## CHAPTER 11: USING SOCIAL MEDIA TO BOOST YOUR RECRUITMENT

Social media is one of the most underused – and most misused – recruiting tools. Done right, it can help coaches discover you, learn about your character, and follow your progress. Let's break down how to **make it work for you**.

### 1. Pick One Platform and Stay Consistent

You don't need to be everywhere. Just be present, positive, and consistent on one major platform.

-  Recommended for players: Twitter/X
-  Optional: Instagram, YouTube, Hudl (for film)
-  Not essential: TikTok (unless used strictly for highlights)

 **Tip:** Put your highlight link in your bio and keep your name, grad year, and position in your handle or display name.

**Example:** @JalenSmith2026 | 6'1 2B | 3.7 GPA

## 🎬 2. Post Game Film the Right Way

### What coaches want to see:

- Quick clips, not 12-minute montages
- Defense, hustle, smart base running – not just home runs
- Recent film (within the last 6–12 months)

### 📺 Post a clean highlight video and caption it like this:

“Class of 2026 | SS/RHP | 3.7 GPA  
Showing fielding range, arm strength, and plate discipline from last weekend’s showcase.

Film: [Hudl link]”

### 📌 TAG:

**#BASKETBALLRECRUITMENT**  
**#BASKETBALLOPPORTUNITIES**  
**#COLLEGE BASKETBALL**



### 3. Engage with Coaches the Right Way

Don't spam. Be real. Here's how to connect:

- ✓ Follow college coaches at your level
- ✓ Like their posts, especially when they talk about culture or player needs
- ✓ Retweet offers and roster updates (it shows awareness)
- ✓ DM only when appropriate – and always be professional

“Hi Coach, I saw your team is looking for a 2026 infielder.

I'm a 6'1 shortstop with a 3.7 GPA – very interested in your program.

Here's my film: [link]”

Thanks for taking a look!”

#### ✘ 4. Avoid These Common Mistakes

- ⊘ Inappropriate posts (language, memes, arguments)
- ⊘ Posting without a real plan
- ⊘ Negativity about coaches, teams, or teammates
- ⊘ Using music with profanity in highlights

**COACHES SCROLL. IF YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA SHOWS EGO OR DRAMA, THEY MOVE ON.**

#### 🔧 5. Use Social Proof to Build Credibility

Every time you:

- ✔ Visit a school
- ✔ Get a message from a coach
- ✔ Win an award
- ✔ Attend a showcase

**Post it with gratitude and professionalism.**

“Grateful for the invite to [Showcase Name] this weekend. Looking forward to competing and improving!  
#GrindSeason #StayReady”

This builds a trail of credibility that coaches trust.

## 📈 6. Boost Your Exposure with Tags and Timing

- ✅ Post in the evening (7–10pm local time)
- ✅ Use 1–3 relevant hashtags, not 20
- ✅ Tag your high school, club team, and College Baseball Openings

💡 Bonus: Retweet your own post 48 hours later to catch more eyes.

**USING THIS STRATEGY CAN REALLY HELP TO BOOST YOUR EXPOSURE TO COLLEGE COACHES A COLLEGE SCOUTS.**



# CHECKLIST

## ✔ Chapter Checklist

- Chose one platform and optimized your bio
- Posted clean, recent highlight clips
- Followed and engaged with college coaches
- Removed old or off-brand posts
- Posted showcase visits or awards
- Used relevant hashtags and tagged your school/team

College Baseball Openings shows you which schools are still recruiting your position right now.

Use that intel to engage the right coaches on social – and email with purpose.

[🔗 Join Now and Amplify Your Reach.](#)

## CHAPTER 12: WHAT TO SAY ON CAMPUS VISITS AND COACH CALLS

When a coach calls, emails, or invites you on campus – it’s not just about baseball anymore. They’re asking themselves:

*“Can I see this player on my team? Can I work with this family for 4 years?”*

This chapter helps you show up prepared, confident, and authentic.

### 1. Know What Coaches Want to Hear


They’re listening for:

- Maturity
- Self-awareness
- Real interest in their program
- Family support (but not helicopter parenting)
- Willingness to compete – not just get handed a spot

## 2. Questions Coaches Might Ask You

Prepare for these:

- “What are you looking for in a college?”
- “What role do you see yourself playing?”
- “What’s your academic interest?”
- “How do you handle challenges or coaching?”
- “Why are you interested in our program?”

 Pro tip: don’t fake it. If you’re not sure, say: “That’s something I’m still figuring out, but I’m open and coachable.”

## 3. Questions You Should Ask Them:

Ask things that show curiosity and preparation – not entitlement.

- ✓ “What does a typical day look like for your players?”
- ✓ “How do freshmen usually develop in your program?”
- ✓ “What’s the team culture like – on and off the court?”
- ✓ “What kind of player are you looking to add in my class?”
- ✓ “What role do you see me possibly fitting into?”

 Don’t start with:

- “Will I get a scholarship?”
- “How many minutes will I get?”
- “Can I start as a freshman?”

#### 4. For Parents: How to Support (Without Overstepping)

Coaches are watching you too. They want to know the player is supported, not smothered.

- ✓ Let your athlete speak first
- ✓ Ask thoughtful academic or financial questions
- ✓ Be polite, punctual, and positive

Remember, your tone sets the tone. They're recruiting a family dynamic, not just a player.

#### 5. During a Campus Visit - Your job: Observe + Engage.

##### What to watch for:

- How the team interacts – is there real chemistry?
- How the coach talks to players during practice
- Living conditions and class support
- Player roles – can you see yourself fitting in?

##### What to say:

- “Thank you for having us.”
- “I like how your team communicates on the field.”
- “This visit helped me picture myself here.”

Coaches love players who are present and observant – not distracted or disinterested.

## 6. After the Visit or Call: Follow Up

Always send a thank-you message within 24 hours.  
Example:

“Hi Coach,

Thanks again for taking the time to talk with me.  
I appreciated learning more about your program  
and the opportunity to connect.

Best of luck this weekend – I’ll be following the  
results!

– [Your Name]”

**Keep building the relationship – it’s often what  
tips decisions in your favor.**



# CHECKLIST

## ✔ Chapter Checklist

- Practiced common coach questions with a parent or mentor
- Prepared 3–5 smart questions to ask coaches
- Took notes during campus visits or calls
- Sent a thank-you message within 24 hours
- Stayed professional, present, and respectful at all times

Not every visit leads to an offer. But every conversation is a step forward – if you show up informed.

🎯 College Baseball Openings tells you which schools are still recruiting your position right now, so you can target visits and calls that actually count.

🔗 [Join Now and Maximize Your Momentum.](#)

## CHAPTER 13: REAL RECRUITMENT MISTAKES TO AVOID

Recruitment is a high-stakes process – and small mistakes can lead to big missed opportunities. The good news? Most of them are preventable. Below are the most common errors we’ve seen over the years – along with simple ways to avoid them.

### ✗ 1. Emailing Every Coach Blindly

Spamming 200 coaches with the same message doesn’t make you look serious – it makes you look desperate.

- ✓ Target your outreach
- ✓ Mention the school by name
- ✓ Explain why you’re a potential fit

Quality over quantity gets replies.

### ✗ 2. Waiting Too Long to Start

Recruitment is about timing – and schools fill up fast.

- ✓ Join platforms like College Baseball Openings early
- ✓ Don’t wait for someone to “find” you

### ✗ 3. Overhyping Yourself or Your Stats

Coaches can spot exaggeration from a mile away. And they will check your film.

- ✓ Be honest about your skillset
- ✓ Focus on how you help a team win – not just your points per game

**Coaches recruit value, not vanity.**

### ✗ 4. Being Unreachable or Inactive

You'd be surprised how many players miss offers because they:

- Don't check their email
  - Don't reply for 4+ days
  - Don't keep film links updated
- 
- ✓ Respond quickly
  - ✓ Keep your contact info current
  - ✓ Set up a recruitment email just for this

## ✗ 5. Ignoring Academics

Many great players get cut from consideration because they didn't meet the school's academic minimum.

- ✓ Stay on top of grades
- ✓ Know the GPA/test score requirements for D1, D2, NAIA
- ✓ Highlight your academic achievements in outreach

## ✗ 6. Having a Parent Dominate the Process

Support is great. Control is not.

- ✓ Speak for yourself on calls
- ✓ Write your own emails
- ✓ Let coaches see who you are

Coaches don't want to recruit your mom or dad – they want to recruit you.

## ✗ 7. Poor Body Language or Attitude in Games

You're always being watched – even when you think you're not.

- ✓ Be the player who lifts others up
- ✓ Don't show frustration after strikeouts or errors
- ✓ Hustle on and off the field every inning
- ✓ Be the first to back up a teammate or chase down a foul ball

Coaches watch for “intangibles” – and body language tells all.

Mistake	Fix It By...
Spamming coaches	Targeted outreach based on actual openings
Waiting until senior year	Starting early and staying consistent
Inflating stats or ego	Show film that proves your value
Being slow to respond	Check email daily and reply fast
Ignoring academics	Keep grades up and highlight your effort
Overbearing parents	Take the lead — it's your recruitment
Bad body language or effort	Be a leader in how you play and act

## CHAPTER 14: HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT COLLEGE – NOT JUST THE BEST TEAM

It's easy to chase the dream of a D1 jersey or a big-name school. But the right choice isn't always the flashiest – it's the one that fits you best. This chapter breaks down how to choose wisely, with your future in mind.

### 1. Remember: Baseball Is Just One Piece

Even if baseball is your whole world right now, your career will eventually end – sometimes by choice, sometimes by injury.

- ✓ Does the school offer your academic interests?
- ✓ Are there internships or job pipelines?
- ✓ Would you stay there if baseball ended?

Choose a school – not just a team.

### 2. Ask: Will I Actually Get to Play?

A full ride on the bench might sound good on paper... until you're sitting for four years.

- ✓ Look for schools where you can grow into a role
- ✓ Ask coaches where they realistically see you fitting in
- ✓ Consider team depth and incoming recruits

### 3. Consider Distance and Environment

Do you want to be close to home or explore new places? Can you handle winter in the Northeast if you're from California?

- ✓ Big city or small town?
- ✓ Rural campus or urban vibe?
- ✓ Travel distance for family visits?

Location will affect your happiness, energy, and focus.

### 4. Understand the Real Costs

A scholarship might not cover everything. And loans can follow you for years.

- ✓ Ask: What's covered – tuition only, or housing too?
- ✓ Compare total costs (including meals, books, travel)
- ✓ Ask about academic aid or work-study options

Sometimes, a well-funded D2 or NAIA can be more affordable than a partial D1 offer.

## 5. Know the Culture of the Team

Do teammates support each other or compete to the point of sabotage? How does the coach handle conflict, failure, or personal issues?

- ✓ Visit in person if you can
- ✓ Ask current players: “What’s it really like here?”
- ✓ Trust your gut on the team energy

## 6. Talk to People Who Know You

It’s not just your decision – but it is your life.


- ✓ Talk with your parents, coaches, mentors
- ✓ Ask: “Where do you see me thriving?”
- ✓ Be open to feedback but stay grounded in your goals

## 7. Use a Decision Grid

Break it down logically when emotions get too loud. Rank each school on the following table. Seeing the numbers can help clarify your best path forward.

Category	Score (1-10)
Playing Opportunity	
Academic Fit	
Financial Aid	
Team Culture	
Location	
Coaching Stability	

The right program will help you grow on and off the field.

 Use College Baseball Openings to focus on schools that actually need your position – and match what matters most to you.

 [Join Now and Target the Right Fit.](#)

# CHECKLIST

## ✓ Chapter Checklist

- Asked, “Would I want to be here without basketball?”
- Reviewed team depth chart and role possibilities
- Compared actual financial offers and hidden costs
- Talked with current players and alumni
- Got input from family and trusted mentors
- Completed a decision grid with personal scores


## CHAPTER 15: BUILDING A PERSONAL RECRUITMENT PLAN

Random emails and “hope” are not a strategy. Players who land offers usually follow a plan – one that gets them in front of the right coaches, at the right time, with the right message. Let’s build yours.

### 1. Set Clear Goals

Define what success looks like – so you’re not chasing someone else’s dream.

- What level are you aiming for: D1, D2, D3, NAIA, JUCO?
- Do you want to stay close to home?
- Is playing time or academics more important?

 **Goal:** Land a D2 roster spot with scholarship in the Southeast by August 2025.

## 2. Create a Monthly Action Plan

Break your recruitment into clear phases so you stay focused and accountable.

Month	Actions
June–July	Build highlight film, update academic profile, join platforms like <b>College Baseball Openings</b> , attend travel ball tournaments
August–September	Email 25 targeted schools, attend local showcases, understand coaches are starting fall season
October–December	Follow up with coaches, check rosters for remaining needs, schedule campus visits
January–March	Reassess list, email new openings, maintain grades, watch for late JUCO/D2 needs
April–May	Final outreach, finalize decision, commit, or prepare for walk-on opportunities

## 3. Track Your Coach Outreach

Use a spreadsheet to log:

- Coach Name
- School
- Date Emailed
- Position Needed
- Response (Y/N)
- Notes

Keep it organized. This lets you follow up intelligently, not randomly.

#### 4. Build a Recruitment Packet

Every serious athlete should have a simple, professional packet ready:

- ✓ Highlight Video (1–2 minutes max)
- ✓ Full Game Film (optional but helpful)
- ✓ Academic Info (GPA, test scores, transcript)
- ✓ Stats + Honors
- ✓ Personal Intro (short bio + why you'd be a great fit)

**SAVE IT IN GOOGLE DRIVE AND LINK IT IN EVERY EMAIL.**




#### 5. Use Every Resource Available

Don't do this alone.


- ✓ Use College Baseball Openings to find real-time openings
- ✓ Ask your high school or AAU coach to help with intros
- ✓ Post on social media with film and updates
- ✓ Register for showcases that fit your level

## 6. Reassess and Adapt Every Month

Recruitment changes fast. Your dream school may fill up. Another school may suddenly need your exact position.

-  Check in monthly: Is your plan working?
-  Adjust your target list based on responses
-  Keep building relationships even if they don't offer right away

**A PLAN TURNS GUESSWORK INTO PROGRESS.**

** WITH COLLEGE BASEBALL OPENINGS, YOU CAN ALIGN YOUR PERSONAL STRATEGY TO REAL-TIME NEEDS – SAVING TIME, TARGETING SMART, AND INCREASING RESULTS.**

** START YOUR PLAN WITH REAL COLLEGE COACH OPENINGS.**

# CHECKLIST

## ✓ Chapter Checklist

- Defined personal goals and what “success” means
- Created a month-by-month action plan
- Set up an outreach tracking sheet
- Built a complete digital recruiting packet
- Leveraged College Baseball Openings and other platforms
- Built in monthly check-ins to reassess and adjust

## CHAPTER 16: THE FINAL CHECKLIST – ARE YOU REALLY READY?

You've done the work.

Built your plan.

Started sending film.

Now it's time for the final test:

*Are you actually ready to be recruited?*

Let's walk through a brutal but honest checklist – and if you're not there yet, don't worry. We'll show you how to close the gap.

### **Mental Readiness**

- I understand the level of competition I'm targeting.
- I'm open to schools I've never heard of if they're a good fit.
- I can handle rejection without quitting.
- I'm doing this because I want it – not just for others.

### **Athletic Readiness**

- My film is updated, sharp, and shows real in-game value.
- I've improved measurable skills (speed, shooting %, defense).
- I've asked coaches what I need to work on – and I listened.
- I'm staying in game shape and training consistently.

## Academic Readiness

- My GPA is high enough for the level I want to play at.
- I've registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center (if needed).
- I know which schools fit my academic goals.
- I've requested my transcript and updated it in my packet.

## Organizational Readiness

- I have a spreadsheet tracking schools, coaches, responses.
- I've sent emails to at least 25+ schools that need my position.
- I know when to follow up – and how to keep it professional.
- I've made my recruiting packet accessible online.

## Relationship Readiness

- I've built a relationship with at least 3–5 coaches.
- I'm communicating with honesty and maturity.
- I've kept my coach or mentor in the loop.
- I've shown gratitude – not entitlement – in my messages.

## Flexibility Readiness

- I'm okay if my plan changes.
- I'm willing to explore JUCO, NAIA, or D3 if needed.
- I've looked into schools that really need me – not just ones I like.
- I'm ready to move fast when the right opportunity appears.

## If You're Not Ready Yet...

That's okay. Most athletes aren't fully ready the first time they check this list.

- Go back to the gaps – and fix one thing per week
- Use College Baseball Openings to realign your focus
- Ask a coach or mentor to help you review your plan

## **This Is Your Shot. Be Ready When It Comes.**

The players who get recruited aren't always the best. They're the most prepared, focused, and proactive. If you're checking most of these boxes – you're already ahead of 90% of the pack.

If you're not – you're still early enough to get on track!

 [Start Today. Join College Baseball Openings Now.](#)