

Arsenal Colorado

COLLEGE RECRUITMENT PRESENTATION



What Can Arsenal Offer You?

Our **CAP** program will offer you guidance about the college process. It can be daunting and seem overwhelming but we are here to help!

Arsenal is committed to not only player development, but truly being a catalyst in helping our players fulfil their dreams of playing college athletics and assessing higher education.

- ▶ CAP Administrator – Peter Nash
- ▶ College Fit Finder
- ▶ **Arsenal Colorado** has helped placed several players into college programs
 - ▶ We currently have more than 50 active players playing across all divisions and 25 players that are finishing up their Senior year of college.

College Fit Finder

...Find your right Fit!

What is College Fit Finder and how does it benefit you?

- ▶ #1 Recruiting Technology in the Country
- ▶ Comprehensive system that allows for individuals to take ownership of their future by equipping them with tools necessary to find a home at the college level.
- ▶ Provides a full spectrum of progressive solutions for high school student athletes and their families to combat the obstacles faced in the college recruiting process.
- ▶ Provides uniformity to the club's recruiting efforts and will allow for our coaching staff to take a much more personal approach in helping **our** athletes throughout the process.

How much does it cost?

- ▶ **Free resource** provided by **Arsenal** for our High School aged members

College Fit Finder – Athlete Features

What College Fit Finder Provides to **our** Athletes:

- ▶ Research Colleges easily and comprehensively with the most robust college search tool available to Student-Athletes
- ▶ In-Depth look at each College and Soccer Program
- ▶ Propriety Algorithm that surgically matches Athletes to Colleges
- ▶ Create Individual Player Profiles
- ▶ Create and Edit Individual Highlight Videos
- ▶ Send a Message to College Coaches
- ▶ ID Camp Database

College Fit Finder – FAQ's


Here are some guidelines to help walk you through the new system:

- ▶ Everyone can log in at www.collegefitfinder.com

* We recommend using **Google Chrome**.

- Enter your Username (firstnamelastname, i.e. johnjones)
- Enter your password (same as your username, unless you changed it on your initial login).

Two things to note before we get started:

- ▶ At any point, you can click the CFF logo () at the top left of your screen to go back to your original login screen.
- ▶ There's a hamburger menu (three vertical lines) at the top right of your screen that will also help you navigate between pages, in addition to what's described below.

College Fit Finder – FAQ's

Video Tutorials

- ▶ Player Overview - Click [HERE](#)
- ▶ Player College Search/Favorites/Messaging - Click [HERE](#)
- ▶ Players & Parents Meeting Video – Click [HERE](#)

Athlete Information

- ▶ How do I edit athletes' profiles? Click [HERE](#)
- ▶ How do I enter a college commitment? Click [HERE](#)
- ▶ How do I view an athlete's Favorites list? Click [HERE](#)
- ▶ How do I view or edit an athlete's Video? Click [HERE](#)
- ▶ How do I find a direct link to an athlete's profile? Click [HERE](#)
- ▶ How do I print an athlete's brochure? Click [HERE](#)

What School Should I Go To?

- ▶ There are several schools across the county that provide players the opportunity to play at the next level. How do you decide?
 - ▶ Come up with a list of 10-20 schools that may interest you.
 - ▶ **Key Factors in Selecting Schools:**
 - ▶ **Location** (Climate, Personal Ties, East Coast, West Coast)
 - ▶ **Academic Interest** (What do I want to study?)
 - ▶ **Level of Team** (What Division do I want to Play in?) - **Be realistic!**
 - ▶ **Utilize College-Fit Finder** (HUGE RESOURCE)



Player Resume

- ▶ Develop a quality player resume (utilize college fit finder)
 - ▶ Make sure you are thorough and put in as much detail as possible.
 - ▶ Profiles give a “glimpse” of an athlete so how would you sell yourself?
 - ▶ Keep information up-to-date

ADALYN VERGARA

Grad Yr: 2018 GPA: 4.2 Ht: 5' 8" Wt: 130 Pos: Center Mid Video: No
✉ [redacted] 📞 [redacted]
🌐 <https://www.collegefitfinder.com/m/adalynvergara1/3475>

Athletics

Team: Arsenal Colorado Academy 99G
Level: Colorado Champions League
Pos: Center Mid
Ht: 5' 8" Wt: 130 Jersey: #7
NCAA Eligibility # [redacted]
NAIA Eligibility # [redacted]

References

Club Coach: Luis Dominguez
✉ dominguezjr@soccerfortcollins.org
📞 970-231-9929
High School Coach: Mario Garcia
✉ gotol25@yahoo.com
📞 210-683-7698
Club Coach / Family Friend: Dennis Lobato
✉ djobalo@comcast.net

Academics

School: Windsor High School
GPA: 4.2 ACT: N/A
SAT: N/A M: N/A R: N/A W: N/A
Major: Wildlife Biology

Athletic Honors & Accomplishments

*14-*16: Starting Varsity
*14-*16: Player of the Game (multiple times)
2015: Newcomer of the Year
2015: All Conference Honorable Mention
2016: All Conference
2016: Most Valuable Player
2016: All State 2nd Team
2016: Conference Player of the Year

Academic Honors & Accomplishments

*14-*18: Academic Letter
2016: Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership Award
2016: Rotary Youth Leadership Award

Academic Course Work

Honors: Algebra II
Honors: Geometry
Honors: 9th/10th Grade English
College: Algebra/Trig

Clubs / Extracurriculars

*14-*18: Future Farmers of America (FFA)
*14-*18: Key Club
*14-*16: Interact
*14-*18: Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Volunteer Work

2015: Sky High Hope Camp (for children w/ cancer)
2015: Operation Christmas Child
*14-*16: American Cancer Society

Scouting Report

I am a composed and intuitive. I am able to read and anticipate attacking plays, pursue the ball immediately, close down the attacking space, intercept passes, and quickly initiate the attack. One of my greatest strengths is my ability to accurately head the ball... to pass, to intercept, to score.

I'm always respectful of my coaches and teammates and am looked to as a leader, on and off the field. I play hard every game and play to win, no matter the level. I am a tough and relentless opponent on the field, but am well-liked and respected.

Here is what my coaches say about me...

“She is always the most consistent player on the soccer field; outworks most everyone else and is very adaptable and effective when she utilizes her natural athletic abilities. She is a very smart player and can play at any position on the field to include playing defense when called upon to neutralize the opposing teams major threat. Her being able to play multiple sports and excel at them says a lot about her athletic ability.”
Dennis Lobato



Player Communication

- ▶ **Understand that is the player's ultimate responsibility to get recruited.** NOT COACHES or PARENTS.
 - ▶ The more proactive you are, the more chances you will have to get recruited
 - ▶ Reaching out through email is the first step to communicating
 - ▶ Make sure after you email you reach out with a phone call
 - ▶ BE PERSISTENT – understand that coaches can't call or email you back (timeline)
 - ▶ Be confident in how you speak to coaches. ASK QUESTIONS!
 - ▶ Keep Coaches updated on your upcoming up events, camps as well as accomplishments



Recruiting Rules and Calendar

	Division I
Recruiting Materials	<p>You may receive brochures for camps, questionnaires, NCAA materials, and nonathletic recruiting publications at any time.</p> <p>A coach may begin sending you recruiting materials and electronic correspondence June 15 between your sophomore and junior year in high school.</p>
Telephone Calls	<p>No limit on number of calls by college coach beginning June 15 between sophomore and junior years.</p> <p>You may make calls to the coach at your expense.</p>
Off Campus Contact	<p>A college coach may have contact with you or your parents/legal guardians off the college's campus beginning June 15 between your sophomore and junior years.</p> <p>No limit on number of contacts off campus</p>
Unofficial Visit	<p>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits any time, except during a dead period.</p>
Official Visit	<p>A college may pay for you to visit the college beginning June 15 between your sophomore and junior years.</p> <p>Between June 15 before your junior year and the end of your senior year in high school, you may make only one official visit per college and up to maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges.</p>



Recruiting Rules and Calendar

	Division II	Division III
Recruiting Materials	<p>You may receive brochures for camps, questionnaires, NCAA materials, and nonathletic recruiting publications at any time.</p> <p>A coach may begin sending you recruiting materials and electronic correspondence June 15 between your sophomore and junior year in high school.</p>	<p>You may receive printed materials at any time.</p>
Telephone Calls	<p>No limit on number of calls by college coach beginning June 15 between sophomore and junior years.</p> <p>You may make calls to the coach at your expense.</p>	<p>No limit on number of calls or when they can be made by the college coach</p> <p>You may make calls to the coach at your expense</p>
Off Campus Contact	<p>A college coach may have contact with you or your parents/legal guardians off the college's campus beginning June 15 between your sophomore and junior years.</p> <p>No limit on number of contacts off campus</p>	<p>A college coach may have contact with you or your relatives or guardians off the college's campus after your sophomore year.</p> <p>No limit on number of contacts off campus</p>
Unofficial Visit	<p>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits any time, except during a dead period.</p>	<p>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits any time</p>
Official Visit	<p>A college may pay for you to visit the college beginning June 15 between your sophomore and junior years.</p> <p>Between June 15 before your junior year and the end of your senior year in high school, you may make only one official visit per college and up to maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges.</p>	<p>A college may pay for you to visit the college beginning January 1 between your sophomore and junior years.</p> <p>Between June 15 before your junior year and the end of your senior year in high school, you may make only one official visit per college and up to maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges.</p>



Recruiting Timeline – Freshman Year

What **you** should be doing:

Academically

- Download NCAA Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.
- Meet with your high school guidance counselor, inform them that you want to play at the college level.
- Choose a challenging course load.
- Work hard to do well in all your coursework.
- Maintain a minimum 3.0-grade point average.

Athletically

- Be committed to being the best soccer player you can be. College coaches will possibly talk to your club coaches about you as player and ask questions about you.
- Highly recommended: create a 3-minute highlight video of yourself.
- Research soccer programs to learn about their coaches, their conference, their roster.
- Attend 2-3 college ID camps at some point during the year



...Freshman Year

What **you** should be doing:

Communication / Activity

- Email coaches in colleges you might be interested in, invite the coaches to come watch you play in your games and national events.
- When you travel out of town, take self-guided visits to colleges in the area.
- Talk about your college search, your dreams and goals with your parents. Talk about soccer, academics, size of school, distance to home, financial factors.
- Start writing down thoughts and experiences of different college and their soccer programs.
- Write down questions on areas that are important to you.

General

- Dream BIG! Players develop in different ways, and you will reach your potential only if you believe in yourself.
- Perhaps most importantly: Enjoy being a high school student! Go support your varsity teams in different sports, make new friends, hang out, don't forget to love life!



...Freshman Year

What college coaches are doing:

- They watch games, they send ID camp invitations, they create databases on players who have expressed interest, they talk with your club coaches ...

What the college coaches are NOT allowed to do and why does it matter?

- They are **not** allowed to send ANY individualized communication to you. All camp invites have to be generic in nature. All camps have to be open to everyone regardless of the quality, only restricted by gender and age.
- They are **not** allowed to bring you on an unofficial visit
- They are **not** allowed to meet with you during a showcase or an event
- They are **not** allowed to call you, email you, text you, or receive calls from you.
- They are **NOT** allowed to offer you scholarships in writing.
- They **can** follow you on social media, and many will ask to, as they want to learn more about you.

You should definitely know what the coaches are allowed to do Why?

- So you can set your expectations (why they won't respond to your emails, for example)
- So you know if someone is breaking the rules.



Sophomore Year

What **you** should be doing:

Academically

- Take Pre-SAT.
- Meet with your high school guidance counselor, review your academic progress and course load to make sure you are headed where you want to.
- Be a good student: manage your time well, prioritize homework and quality sleep/rest.
- **Always** work hard to do well in all your coursework. Maintain a minimum 3.0-grade point average.

Athletically

- **Be committed to being the best soccer player you can be.**
- Update your highlight video.
- Start researching soccer programs even more carefully: watch games on TV and online (plenty available!), so you learn about the different programs' levels and style of play.
- Attend a few more college ID camps at some point during the year



...Sophomore Year

What **you** should be doing:

Communication / Activity

- Keep coaches up-to-date on your progress. Email coaches in colleges you are interested in, invite the coaches to come watch you play in your games and national events. Email coaches in programs you know you are interested in regularly (once every 2-3 weeks).
- Continue to learn as much as you can about available options.
- Keep taking self-guided visits to colleges in the area.
- Continue talk about your college search, your dreams and goals with your parents. Talk about soccer, academics, size of school, distance to home, financial factors.
- Keep writing down thoughts and experiences of different college and their soccer programs.
- Continue to write down questions on areas that are important to you.
- **Perhaps most importantly: Enjoy being a high school student! Continue to support your varsity teams in different sports, make new friends, hang out, don't forget to love life!**



...Sophomore Year

What college coaches are doing:

They will continue to watch your games, they will send ID camp invitations, they will continue to talk with your club coaches

What the college coaches are NOT allowed to do and why does it matter?

- They are still not allowed to do any of the things listed for freshman year!!
- They are not allowed to send ANY individualized communication to you. All camp invites have to be generic in nature. All camps have to be open to everyone regardless of the quality, only restricted by gender and age.
- They are not allowed to bring you on an unofficial visit
- They are not allowed to meet with you during a showcase or an event
- They are not allowed to call you, email you, text you, or receive calls from you.
- They are NOT allowed to offer you scholarships in writing.
- They can follow you on social media, and many will ask to, as they want to learn more about you.



Junior Year

What **you** should be doing:

Academically

- Look up the average scores for SAT/ACT at the colleges you are interested in attending, do more research on the admission requirements of your colleges of interest.
- Sign up for standardized testing.
- Request the test scores be sent to [the NCAA Eligibility Center](#) by marking “9999” in the code box where indicated.
- Meet with your high school guidance counselor in the beginning of the school year, review your academic progress and course load to ensure you’re on the right track.
- [Be a good student: manage your time well ... GPA ... Time management ... Rest](#)

Athletically

- Continue to be committed to being the best soccer player you can be.
- Keep your highlight video updated
- Do research on soccer programs even more carefully: watch games on TV and online (plenty available!), so you learn about the different programs’ levels and style of play.
- Attend college ID camps during the year



Junior Year

What **you** should be doing:

Communication / Activity

- Start narrowing down your college list, but remain open to new options that may arise from your academic or athletic performance.
- Make an effort to talk with college coaches on the phone – **call them, email them and text them**. If you do not hear back, email or call again. If a coach reaches out to you, make sure you respond within 48 hours, *doesn't matter which coach it is*.

Do not close any doors before you are 110% certain that you have legitimate better options.

- When you talk with the coaches, ask them about how their recruiting for your class is going, how many recruits are they bringing in, how many for your position, and if they have expressed interest in you, it's perfectly OK to ask where you stand in the recruiting process.
- Continue all the things you have been doing your freshman and sophomore years.
- Add more questions to ask coaches, start getting really specifics with the questions you ask the coaches when you are on the phone with them.



Junior Year

What college coaches are doing:

- They will continue to watch your games, they will send ID camp invitations, they will start emailing you directly and calling you.
- On an unofficial visit, they often discuss possible scholarships with you, most coaches leave it for in-person interaction.

It is important for you to know, based on your discussions with your family, how much potential athletic scholarship, academic scholarship, or need-based financial aid matters to you in choosing your college.

What the college coaches are NOT allowed to do and why does it matter?

- After June 15 of your sophomore year (the summer before your junior year), They are allowed to communicate with you directly.
- After August 1 before your junior year, They are allowed to bring you on an unofficial or official visit.
- They are still allowed to meet with you off campus.
- They are still NOT allowed to offer you scholarships in writing.



Senior Year

What **you** should be doing:

Even if you remain uncommitted and a lot of your teammates are already committed, remember, all kinds of things happen. Nowadays, with the changed transfer rules, college coaches often look for players a lot later in the process than prior to 2018.

Continue to work hard in your classes. Take standardized tests again, if needed.

Even when the recruiting process and your college search starts to stress you out, remember, it should be **a positive experience**, it's about your future, and it should be **exciting**. If you do what is within your control, you will most likely end up in what will be the **best fit for you** for a variety of reasons – academically, athletically, financially, socially, geographically....



Video

Can a player video help me?

- ▶ Highlight videos are a great way to help promote yourself as a player
- ▶ It is important to make sure team makes investment to get a few games filmed
- ▶ You can either provide full games as well as highlight videos
- ▶ You want to make sure you indicate what player you are by number or an identifier.



Camp Information

- ▶ College ID Camps are a great way to be identified and shows mutual interest to the university
- ▶ Find College ID camps that will be hosting several college coaches
- ▶ ID camps gives you a great way to meet the staff and get to know the campus
- ▶ Make sure you communicate and find information about the camps



Common Recruiting Terms

- ▶ **Camp Invite** – Often times the only type of communication permitted by the coach: club coach can follow up.
- ▶ **Contact** - Happens any time a college coach says more than hello during face-to-face meeting with a college-bound student-athlete or his or her parents
- ▶ **Dead Period**- A college coach may not have face-to-face contact with the college-bound student-athletes or their parent and may not watch student-athletes compete or visit their high schools. Coaches may write and telephone student-athletes or their parents during the dead period.
- ▶ **Evaluation** - Happens when a college coach overserves a student-athlete practicing or competing.
- ▶ **FAFSA** - Free Application for Federal Student Aid. An application that can be filled out by prospective college students
- ▶ **Full Ride** – 100% Scholarship
- ▶ **Highlight Video** – Compilation of game film that highlights a player's ability-short, clear and strong identification of who the player is.
- ▶ **NCAA Eligibility Center** – “NCAA Clearinghouse” eligibility arm of the governing body that oversees the eligibility process for incoming collegiate student-athletes enforces rules regarding a student's eligibility including academic requirements and amateurism status.



Common Recruiting Terms

- ▶ **NLI** – National Letter of Intent – Bounding contact for athletically related financial aid. First Wednesday in February.
- ▶ **Official Visit** - Visit that the institution pays for.
- ▶ **Officially Commits** – To attend a division 1 or 2 college, he or she signs a National Letter of Intent, agreeing to attend that school for one academic year.
- ▶ **PSA** – Prospective Student-Athlete, becomes a PSA on first contact.
- ▶ **Partial Scholarship** – Scholarships can be given on percentage, from 1 % to 99%
- ▶ **Questionnaire** - online form sent by schools to collect information.
- ▶ **Red Shirt** – Also known as a ‘Fifth Year Senior,” redshirt refers to a student-athlete who extends four seasons of player over five years. A redshirt player typically sits out of games for a season, while still attending practice and classes.
- ▶ **Unofficial Visit** – Visit that the player pays for
- ▶ **Verbal Commitment** -Happens when a college-bound student-athlete verbally agrees to play sports for college before he or she signs or is eligible to sign a National Letter of Intent. The commitment is not binding on the student-athlete or the school and can be made at any time.
- ▶ **Walk-On** – An athlete who benefits from every aspect of the team, except they are not on scholarship



Major Recruiting Mistakes by Student-Athletes and Families

- ▶ **MISTAKE #1- TARGET SCHOOLS ABOVE YOUR ATHLETIC ABILITY** - Student –Athletes and parents often believe their son or daughter are better than they actually are, and assume they will be recruited while they wait for their mailbox to fill up with scholarship offers or wait for phone calls from coaches. You have to be proactive and market yourself the proper way. Very few athletes will ever play at the top tier programs in the country. These schools have the luxury of selecting from the top blue chip athletes and begin tracking them by their freshmen year in high school. Parents and athletes do not always know how to evaluate athletic ability accurately. Success on your team or league does not mean you are capable of receiving a college scholarship or even competing at the college level. Playing in camps or tournaments out of your local area is a good way to measure yourself against the larger population of athletes. Overestimating your talent can leave you in the cold for a college career if you only target schools that are above your talent level. The most successful high school players are not necessarily the most recruited college athletes. High School awards and statistics only tell part of the story. College coaches recruit based on physical attributes, skill and potential. Many kids make this mistake and end up transferring, a lot just get cut and never play their sport again. And that's a shame!
- ▶ **MISTAKE #2- CONTACT TOO FEW SCHOOLS** - Nothing limits your options more than just focusing on a small number of schools. Just because you are interested in a school does not mean they're interested in you. They are looking at hundreds, even thousands of athletes each year for a limited number of spots. The more schools that you are communicating with, the more offers you will eventually receive. If you target a large number of schools you are more likely to have options to choose the best school for you.



Major Recruiting Mistakes by Student-Athletes and Families

- ▶ **MISTAKE #3- HAVE A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY** - Many athletes feel confident that they are already being recruited because they've heard from a few coaches. This 'contact' comes in the form of letters, emails, occasional phone calls, and even an invitation to attend a camp so they can 'get a better look at you'. Unless you are getting weekly phone calls from coaches, you are not seriously being recruited. There is a big difference between a camp invite and a scholarship offer in writing.
- ▶ **MISTAKE #4 WAIT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE FOR SOMETHING TO HAPPEN** - Many athletes wait until they are physically, emotionally, and mentally ready to be a serious college prospect, this usually happens during the end of Junior Year or Senior Year. The problem is, by waiting until this late in the recruiting game you are limiting your opportunities. The earlier you start the process, the more success you will have. Your window of opportunity closes with every game you play. Student-athletes start the process too late and end up making a rushed decision. Start researching schools as early as possible and make first contact with college coaches early. Just get your name in their pipeline!



Major Recruiting Mistakes by Student-Athletes and Families

- ▶ **MISTAKE #5- UNDERESTIMATE YOUR COLLEGE POTENTIAL** - Maybe you assume you will only play if someone recruits you? Or maybe someone told you that if you are good enough coaches will find you. Student-Athletes underestimate their ability, and they think they would not be capable of playing in college and they don't even try to communicate with coaches. You don't have to be the best player in your league or even on your team to get recruited. Scholarship talent is usually noticed, but not always. Don't be shy about your ability, or about calling attention to it and your aspirations
- ▶ **MISTAKE # 6- EXPECT SOMEONE ELSE TO GET YOU RECRUITED** – Although many athletes play for a high-profile high schools or club teams, families are on their own to figure out the best way to get recruited or land a scholarship. Do not just rely on your coaches; they have full time jobs, families and are paid very little to coach you, let alone help you and every other kid get recruited and save money on college. Parents and Student-Athletes often receive help and encouragement from people who know very little about the recruiting process and little about college athletics. Listen to the right people and do your own homework. Also beware of any agendas someone else might have when giving you advice.
- ▶ **MISTAKE #7 – NOT UNDERSTAND THE SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID PROCESS** - As the emergence of camps, showcased and private instruction takes on a new and more important role, many families feel they need a scholarship to justify the time and expense they have already put into athletics. Parents and Student-Athletes often feel anything less than an athletic scholarship to a Division 1 program is unacceptable. Remember you are going to college to receive a college degree and play the sport you love. Parents and Student-Athletes also don't realize how rare a full scholarship is. Aside of Division 1 football and basketball powerhouses, most scholarships issued to players are partial scholarships. Understand that a lot of times, a grant and aid package from a non-scholarship school is more lucrative than one with athletic aid. The scholarship and financial aid process is complicated and in addition to athletic aid it involves academic aid, family need aid, leverage aid, and other types of aid. The more you understand how the process works, the more money you can save.



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QUESTIONS?

CONTACT COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM COORDINATOR – PETER NASH

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