



GUIDE TO TENNIS ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

Second Edition

Foreword by Patrick McEnroe



USTA GUIDE TO TENNIS ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

SECOND EDITION



UNITED STATES TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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FOREWORD

by Patrick McEnroe

Susan Mullane/Camerawork USA



When I was hired as General Manager for USTA Player Development in May 2008, one of my top priorities was to more fully integrate the college tennis experience into the development of American tennis players. Whether at the varsity or recreational level, college tennis is an integral part of the pathway to maximizing your potential as a player. As a former collegiate tennis player, my experiences in college helped me grow as a player and as a person and prepared me for my life on the pro tour and for my responsibilities as the Davis Cup Captain and Player Development GM.

Regardless of whether you plan to compete at the varsity level or choose to seek out recreational opportunities, playing tennis in college is a decision that will create a number of wonderful opportunities for your future. Tennis is unique in that its lessons transcend the sport. It teaches life skills such as sportsmanship, teamwork, discipline, and time management that carry over into any future profession. Moreover, tennis in college provides players the opportunity to meet a new, diverse group of people who share a similar interest—people who become lifelong friends.

Collegiate tennis, both on the varsity and recreational levels, also provides the chance to travel across the country to places you otherwise might never visit and to meet people you might otherwise never meet. Such opportunities provide for a unique educational experience and will stay with you forever.

Finally, and most importantly, collegiate tennis gives you a chance to continue playing the game you love. More so than any other sport, tennis is a lifelong activity that you can participate in long after other athletes have become disengaged. And no matter what career you choose to pursue following college—be it as a professional tennis player or as a doctor, teacher, or businessperson—your college tennis experience will stay with you for the rest of your life.

This second edition of the *USTA Guide to Tennis on College Campuses* contains a vast amount of useful information that will help you select the college and tennis program that are right for you. I wish you the best of luck as you enter this next phase of your life, and I hope you enjoy your college tennis experience as much as I did.

Patrick McEnroe, a graduate of Stanford University, played varsity tennis in college after which he had a successful professional career in both singles and doubles. He won the French Open doubles title in 1989. Today, McEnroe is General Manager, USTA Player Development, Captain of the United States Davis Cup Team, and a tennis analyst for ESPN.

Testimonials by Professional Players

Here's what some professional tennis players have to say about their college experiences...

When I made the decision to go to college, I had already had offers to turn pro, but knew I wasn't ready either mentally or physically for the pro tour. Going to college gave me the opportunity to mature, study, meet great friends, and play tennis for the pure joy of the game. I wouldn't trade my time in college for anything.

—James Blake, Harvard University

Our time at Stanford—winning two NCAA team titles, getting a great education, playing tennis for our coaches and with our teammates, being in a fraternity, and experiencing all the other aspects of life on a college campus—were the best years of our lives. Playing college tennis prepared us well for the pro tour. We really needed that developmental step for our tennis and for us to grow as young guys. We loved our time at Stanford playing for Coach Gould and Coach Whitlinger, and we formed lifelong friendships with our teammates and with other students and athletes on campus. We learned so, so much in so many ways. The greatest sport's feeling in the world is playing and winning with a team—it doesn't get any better than college tennis.

—Bob and Mike Bryan, Stanford University

I knew I wasn't ready for the tour at 18. My game wasn't ready...Playing in college was so important for me...an amazing chance to grow in tennis and as a person.

—Laura Granville, Stanford University

For me, college was the absolute best choice. Coming out of high school, I really didn't have any pro aspirations as all I wanted to do was earn a college scholarship. I was lucky that Coach Manny Diaz took a chance on me and from there my tennis career really took off. Being around my teammates and coaches for four years helped my tennis game immensely and is really the reason I am playing on the pro tour today. College also helped me grow as a person, and now I have friends that I will stay in touch with forever. Personally, I think college is the right choice for any promising junior no matter how good he or she is.

—John Isner, University of Georgia

PREFACE

For high school juniors and seniors, deciding on what college to attend can be a challenge. Now add to that standard challenge the requirement that the college of choice must have good tennis-playing opportunities and the stakes get even higher. The second edition of the *USTA Guide to Tennis on College Campuses* is designed to give these students and their parents (as well as college freshmen and sophomores looking to change schools) the tools they need to make this important decision.

Currently there are more than 340,000 varsity high school tennis players and thousands of other high school students who enjoy competitive tennis in a more recreational setting. The *USTA Guide to Tennis on College Campuses*, Second Edition, is a comprehensive resource for locating tennis programs—varsity or recreational—at approximately 2,000 colleges and universities across the country and for identifying their requirements for entry. In other words, if you want to play tennis in college, whatever your level and whatever your interest, whether able-bodied or a wheelchair player, this guide will provide you with the information you need to make the choice that is right for you.

In addition to the all-important information on collegiate varsity and recreational tennis programs, this guide provides information on the tennis organizations that can help the prospective collegiate tennis player (USTA, ITA, and NIRSA), the collegiate athletic organizations (NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA), print and online directories of colleges that have tennis programs, Internet links to Web sites that identify varsity and recreational tennis programs, scholarship opportunities, and suggested readings and other resource materials for helping the student player prepare for college interviews and make application. For those student players who are interested in a career in the tennis industry, although not necessarily on the pro tour, the guide points to where the opportunities lie and which colleges offer programs to prepare the student for such careers.

To help students and parents easily research information on the tennis organizations, collegiate governing bodies, and other entities discussed in the guide, Internet links and other contact information are provided in the text directly where the topic is covered and, when applicable, in an aggregate list at the end of each chapter. The Appendix then provides more detailed contact information for all organizations and resources covered in the guide.

This *USTA Guide to Tennis on College Campuses*, Second Edition, revises and updates the first edition of the guide, which was published in 2006.

Through tennis, students learn lifelong skills: social, mental, and physical. They learn what it takes to win—and how to deal with losing. They learn that perseverance, practice, and keeping their eye on their goal lead to success. And they make great friends and have lots of fun. Colleges are in the business of teaching students lifelong skills, and tennis supports that goal like no other sport.

Today there are more exciting opportunities for collegiate tennis-playing experiences than ever before. Read on and make tennis an important part of your college years. You'll find that the benefits of collegiate tennis extend far beyond the court.

INTRODUCTION

The United States Tennis Association (USTA) is the national governing body for the sport of tennis in the United States and the recognized leader in promoting and developing the growth of tennis in the United States, from the grassroots to the professional level. That includes collegiate tennis!

A not-for-profit organization founded in 1881, the USTA now has nearly 730,000 individual members and 8,400 organizational members, thousands of volunteers, and a professional staff—all dedicated to growing the game. As the map on the following page indicates, the USTA is divided into seventeen geographical sections that administer the business of the USTA on a state or multi-state level.

The USTA has been actively involved in collegiate tennis for over 125 years. It sponsored the first inter-collegiate men's tennis championships in 1883 and was the first organization to sponsor a women's national collegiate tennis tournament in 1958. Today, the Player Development Division of the USTA and Tennis On Campus, a USTA Community Tennis Division program, work with other interested organizations to promote and encourage the growth of tennis on college campuses—Player Development on the varsity side and Tennis On Campus on the recreational side.

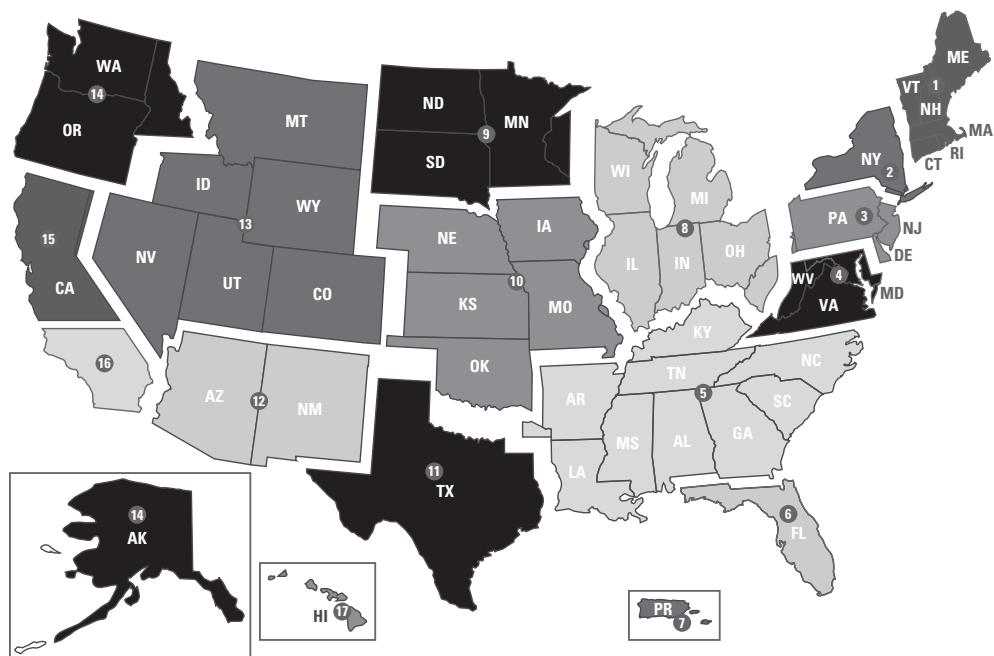
In 2004, the USTA Board of Directors adopted a resolution that reaffirmed its commitment to and support of intercollegiate varsity tennis. And in 2005, it approved a new junior-collegiate player development initiative, which included additional staff, money, and other resources devoted to the development of junior and college players. In recent years, USTA Player Development has significantly expanded its role in collegiate varsity tennis including but not limited to administering the highly popular Campus Showdown and Campus Kids' Day programs. The USTA, in partnership with the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA), continues to sponsor a Summer Collegiate Team and, in 2009, reinstated Pro Tour Transition Camps for the top American collegiate players looking to transition from a successful collegiate career to the professional tour. Beginning in 2010, the USTA became the title sponsor for the ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships, the ITA Small College National Championships, and 88 ITA Regional Tournaments and the host of the USTA/ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center. In addition to focusing on player development, the Junior and Collegiate Competition Department also works on Advocacy, Education, and Media and Marketing to promote and preserve the collegiate varsity experience. Chapters 4-9 provide important information that the prospective student-athlete needs to know about varsity tennis at the college level.

Recognizing that not all prospective college tennis players will have the skill or commitment that playing on a varsity team requires, the USTA developed the Tennis On Campus program for the hundreds of thousands of high school students who, nevertheless, want to be part of a group, remain active, and continue playing tennis in college. Tennis On Campus is a national program that promotes and supports the expansion of co-ed recreational team play on college campuses throughout the country. Previously under the tennis radar, recreational tennis opportunities for young men and women of all playing levels now abound on college campuses. Tennis On Campus focuses on providing structured play options for students who want team-based recreational—yet competitive—play. It does this through promoting intramural play, tennis sport clubs, leagues, and sectional and national championships. National partnerships have been formed between the USTA, National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA), Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA), and World TeamTennis (WTT) to help make college tennis a reality for thousands of college students. Chapter 10 explores the world of recreational tennis and the Tennis On Campus program.

The USTA has numerous people who can help you as you explore your college and tennis-playing options. At the national level, USTA staff and volunteers run programs at high school and college campuses throughout the country to ensure that students know they have many varsity and recreational alternatives for enjoying tennis during their college years. For more information on the USTA, log onto www.usta.com.

Each of the seventeen sections has a Player Development contact and/or a Tennis On Campus contact. These sectional contacts are involved with everything having to do with college tennis in their particular sections. They work with varsity tennis programs, tennis sport clubs, intramural programs, and high school players. They also work closely with the ITA and NIRSA, as does the national office, to promote tennis on college campuses. The collegiate contact in your section is an invaluable resource for you. Please see the Appendix for contact information.

- 1.USTA New England
- 2.USTA Eastern
- 3.USTA Middle States
- 4.USTA Mid-Atlantic
- 5.USTA Southern
- 6.USTA Florida
- 7.USTA Caribbean
- 8.USTA Midwest
- 9.USTA Northern
- 10.USTA Missouri Valley
- 11.USTA Texas
- 12.USTA Southwest
- 13.USTA Intermountain
- 14.USTA Pacific Northwest
- 15.USTA Northern California
- 16.USTA Southern California
- 17.USTA Hawaii Pacific



The USTA is fortunate to have outstanding allies to assist it in its efforts to promote and develop the growth of American collegiate tennis at the varsity and recreational levels. These allies include the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) and the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA).

Long recognized as one of the best organized collegiate sports associations, the ITA is a 52-year-old non-profit service organization that serves as the governing body of collegiate tennis in the United States. It is comprised of nearly 1,700 men's and women's tennis coaches representing over 1,200 institutions across the country from all three National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) divisions as well as the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), junior colleges, and auxiliary members who are dedicated to the growth and promotion of college tennis. The ITA oversees activities involving over 15,000 varsity college student-athletes and promotes both the athletic and academic achievements of the collegiate tennis community. The ITA administers a number of regional and national championships, rankings, and awards programs that benefit all levels of collegiate tennis. Together with the USTA, the ITA promotes wheelchair tennis opportunities on college campuses. The ITA and the USTA sponsor campus and community outreach awards to recognize college coaches who have developed community-based and recreational tennis programs on their campuses and in their communities. For more information on the ITA, log onto www.itatennis.com.

NIRSA is the leading resource for professional and student development, education, and research in collegiate recreational sports. What started out as a meeting of 22 men and women from 11 colleges in 1950 has evolved into an association of nearly 4,000 members and more than 700 colleges and universities nationwide. Today, NIRSA professionals manage large operating budgets that directly impact millions of people on campuses around the country. NIRSA, along with the ITA and World TeamTennis (WTT), plays a key role in hosting the USTA Campus Championship—the pinnacle of the USTA college campus recreational tournaments—each year. NIRSA and the USTA also sponsor the Tennis Ace Awards, which honor NIRSA Institutional, Professional, and Student members who have implemented NIRSA-endorsed USTA tennis programs on campus and recognize efforts to grow recreational tennis participation. For more information on NIRSA, log onto www.nirsa.org.

RESOURCE AIDS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

United States Tennis Association (USTA)—www.usta.com

Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA)—www.itatennis.com

National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA)—www.nirsa.org

Complete contact information for the USTA, ITA, and NIRSA can be found in the Appendix.

Part I

SO YOU WANT TO PLAY TENNIS IN COLLEGE

Chapter 1

Choosing a Path That Works for You

As a reader of this guide, you've already made two important decisions: One, you want to attend college, and two, you want tennis to be a significant part of your college years. You probably know that today more than ever a college education is critical to a successful and productive future. In addition to the substantive knowledge and critical thinking and social skills one acquires from a college education, there is an enormous difference between the mean annual earnings of those individuals who attend and graduate from college and those who do not. Myles Brand, the first university president to serve as NCAA president (2003-2009), was a passionate advocate of the importance of a college education. "No matter how long or successful your professional career may be, you will have a long life afterwards that will benefit from an excellent education. In the long run, getting a degree will be the most important career move you make." Brand also recognized the other important skills and traits that students acquire through athletics participation in college—commitment, perseverance, teamwork, time management, to name but a few.

As a young man or woman who has decided to make tennis a part of your college years, you have made a great choice. But what do you need to know about yourself in order to choose a college that will be right for you? Following are lists of academic, tennis, and general criteria for you to consider in the selection process. Only you can determine how important each criterion is to your ultimate choice. These questions will help you evaluate what is and isn't important to you in the selection of a college. Remember, not only should the school you select be compatible with your interests and goals, but also with your abilities.

Academic Criteria

- Do you want a rigorous academic environment? (Realistically assess your ability in making this decision. Will you meet the entrance requirements, and will you be able to manage the academic workload?)
- Is attending a prestigious institution important to you?
- Does the school have the academic program you want?
- Is summer school available?
- How extensive is the library?
- What are the backgrounds of the faculty members?
- Are there academic support staff and programs?
- What is the average class size?
- Are you intellectually compatible with the student body?
- Will this school help you prepare for the career you are interested in?
- Does it offer placement services?

Tennis Criteria

- Do you want to play varsity or recreational tennis?
- What is the quality of the tennis team?
- Would you have the opportunity to develop as a tennis player?
- Where would you likely be in the team lineup and how much would you get to play?
- How important is being in the starting lineup to you?
- What is the coach's background, reputation, and teaching philosophy?
- Is this someone you could see yourself working with and being compatible with for four years? (Ask yourself the same questions of the assistant coach.)
- Would you still want to attend this school if the tennis coach (or assistant coach) were to leave during your time there?
- Is the coach supportive of the academic needs of team players?
- What are the current players on the team like and would you be compatible with them?
- What is the in-season practice schedule—both frequency and length?
- What are the off-season practice requirements?
- How many indoor and outdoor courts are available for the tennis team?
- What is the overall quality of the tennis facilities?
- Is equipment supplied by the school or by the student-athletes?
- Who administers the strength and conditioning program?
- What is the quality of the strength and conditioning program and its facilities?
- Does the athletic department provide other support services such as nutritional counseling?

Other Criteria

- Can you afford this college or university? If not, does it give financial aid or will you qualify for other sources of financial aid or scholarships? (See Chapter 3 for more on financial aid and scholarships.)
- How important are other campus activities to you, for example, fraternities, sororities, clubs, concerts, movies, dances, etc., and does this college or university provide them?
- Is the demographic makeup of the student body acceptable to you?
- Is the student/teacher ratio acceptable?
- Do you want to attend college in a big city, small city, college town, or rural area?
- Do you have a preference regarding where the school is geographically—North, South, East, or West?
- Do you prefer to be within a short commuting distance to your home? Or is distance from home not a factor in your decision?
- Is climate a factor in your decision?
- What do you want in living accommodations? Dorms or off-campus? Single sex or co-ed? Air conditioning? Private or community bathrooms?
- Is the location of your housing to classes and the tennis facilities important to you? Will you have a car?
- Is the quality of the cafeteria or other food services acceptable?

Reviewing the above criteria and determining how much value you put on each of them early in the college search process will simplify your ultimate selection. Further, by realistically evaluating your chances of being accepted and doing well—both academically and athletically—at any of the colleges that interest you will minimize chances of disappointment and increase the likelihood of choosing a school where you will be happy and successful for the next four years.

Chapter 2

What Kind of Tennis Experience Do You Want?

There are many opportunities to make tennis a part of your college years. The choice depends on you. Collegiate tennis breaks down into two major categories—varsity and recreational tennis—and is offered at many of the more than 4,000 colleges and universities throughout the country.

Your Choice: Varsity or Recreational Tennis

Varsity tennis programs offer students the opportunity to participate in competitive intercollegiate tennis throughout the United States. If you are interested in a professional tennis career, you will definitely want to consider collegiate varsity tennis. Even if you haven't decided on a pro tennis career, if you prefer a more structured and competitive tennis experience, you may also be suited for the varsity route. Varsity programs are funded by the school, hire coaches, recruit, and make competitive cuts. There are over 2,000 Men's and Women's tennis teams at NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA colleges and universities throughout the country. Many of these schools offer scholarships for players. Championship tournaments are a highlight of the varsity tennis year.

Recreational tennis offers many of the benefits of varsity tennis, but does not require as much dedication or as great a time commitment. The really bright note in collegiate recreational tennis today is Tennis On Campus, a national program developed by the USTA to promote and support the expansion of co-ed recreational team play on college campuses throughout the country. The program focuses on providing structured play opportunities for the entire campus community through sport club teams, intramural competition, and on-campus leagues, all of which are exciting, friendly, and fun. And, as with varsity tennis, tournaments and both on-campus and off-campus championships are integral components of recreational tennis programs. A major highlight of the Tennis On Campus program is the USTA National Campus Championship, at which college tennis teams from around the country compete each spring.

Wheelchair tennis players can and are encouraged to participate in both varsity and recreational tennis on college campuses. Oftentimes play is in the form of up/down tennis, which is a wheelchair player competing alongside an able-bodied player. In addition, the USTA National Collegiate Wheelchair Tennis Championship provides an opportunity for wheelchair student-athletes to compete against other wheelchair players while representing their respective colleges. Wheelchair tennis is one of the fastest growing and most challenging of wheelchair sports, and opportunities for collegiate wheelchair players are steadily increasing. *The USTA Collegiate Wheelchair Tennis Manual* is available at usta.com, click on Play Now, then on Wheelchair.

No matter what your level of experience or proficiency, whether an able-bodied or wheelchair player, there's a tennis program for you when you enter college. Varsity tennis and Tennis On Campus are discussed in detail in Part II and Part III, respectively, of this guide.

Are You Thinking of a Career in the Tennis Industry?

A career in the tennis industry can be fulfilling, lucrative, and rewarding. The opportunities are endless—certified tennis teaching professionals, tennis directors, club managers and owners, high school or college coaches, manufacturers' representatives, sport science consultants, pro shop managers, and tennis industry administrators and executives to name but a few. Others use their undergraduate degree, tennis-playing experience, and network of people they meet in tennis to branch out into business and professional careers related to or outside of tennis, such as law, magazine publishing, or retail. Playing tennis in college will enrich your career possibilities even if you do not pursue a pro tennis career.

Part IV of this guide provides more information on tennis industry careers and accredited collegiate Professional Tennis Management programs that will directly prepare you for these careers.

Chapter 3

Financial Aid

Today the cost of a college education often tops six figures—a sobering thought for most American families. As a result, all but the most affluent usually need some kind of financial aid to help them put their sons and daughters through college. Fortunately, there is help out there. There are three primary sources of aid: (1) need-based aid, which includes grants that do not have to be repaid and do not require a service commitment, and loans, which do require repayment and at times a service commitment, (2) merit-based aid, which is generally given to students in recognition of special skills, talent, and/or academic ability, and (3) scholarships, which can be awarded on the basis of need, ethnicity, merit, or any number of other criteria.

If you will need financial aid to attend college, your first line of assistance is your high school guidance counselor or college financial aid officer. These professionals can help you sort through the maze of possible funding sources, advise you on how to approach these sources, and help you fill out applications and other forms. Since there are a limited number of scholarships for some college tennis programs, many prospective tennis players who need financial aid seek it from a variety of sources—grants, loans, and general or academic scholarships.

Athletics-Based Aid

Financial aid and scholarships specifically awarded on the basis of tennis background and plans to pursue tennis in college are discussed below.

NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA Schools

There are three major athletic collegiate governing organizations: The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), and the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). These three organizations will be discussed in greater detail in Chapter 5. Our purpose in citing these organizations in this chapter is to tell you that the colleges and universities affiliated with them offer tennis scholarships and/or other sorts of financial aid.

It is very important for prospective student-athletes and their parents¹ to understand certain criteria related to the awarding of athletic scholarships, including the following:

- Athletic scholarships awarded by member schools of the three collegiate governing associations are for one year only and must be renewed annually.
- Athletic scholarship are awarded in a variety of amounts, ranging from full scholarships (which include tuition, fees, room and board, and books) to very small scholarships (e.g., books only). Prospective

¹All references to parents in this guide include legal guardians as well.

tive student-athletes should check with the tennis coach or financial aid officer of the colleges they are interested in to determine how athletic scholarships are allocated.

- The total amount of financial aid a student-athlete may receive and the total amount of athletic aid a team may receive can be limited. Check with the financial aid officer on the college's policy in this regard.

The NCAA, which is comprised of approximately 1,050 colleges and universities, has three divisions. As of 2009, these 1,050 colleges had 753 Men's varsity teams and 914 Women's varsity teams. Divisions I and II schools offer tennis scholarships—a maximum equivalent of 4.5 scholarships per year for the men's program and 8 for the women's in Division I and 4.5 in the men's and 6 in the women's in Division II. Although Ivy League schools (which are NCAA Division I schools) and all NCAA Division III schools do not give athletic scholarships, financial aid based on need and/or academics is available. For more on scholarships and financial aid through the NCAA, go to www.ncaa.org.

The NAIA is comprised of nearly 300 accredited four-year colleges and universities in the United States and Canada. As of 2009, these schools had 104 Men's varsity teams and 121 Women's varsity teams. NAIA schools offer a maximum of 5 men's and 5 women's tennis scholarships annually. For more on financial aid opportunities at the NAIA, go to www.naia.org.

The NJCAA is comprised of 523 two-year colleges and institutions accredited by state and/or regional accrediting agencies. As of 2009, these schools had almost 80 Men's varsity teams and approximately 90 Women's varsity teams. Schools in this organization offer a maximum of 8 men's and 8 women's tennis scholarships annually. For more on the NJCAA, go to www.njcaa.org.

USTA Serves

USTA Serves—Foundation for Academics. Character. Excellence. is the charitable and philanthropic arm of the USTA. The Foundation is dedicated to improving the quality of life of our nation's youth by supporting organizations that use tennis as a vehicle to help youngsters finish high school and qualify for college scholarships. Each year it awards scholarships to high school seniors who have excelled both academically and in tennis. Since 1995, USTA Serves has awarded more than \$2 million in college scholarships. The Foundation targets youth from all cultural and ethnic backgrounds. For information on USTA Serves scholarships, go to www.usta.com and click on USTA Serves at the bottom of the home page.

USTA Sections

Several of the seventeen USTA sections provide financial support toward college expenses to deserving students within their sections. Each section that offers scholarships establishes its own criteria and timetable. Contact your USTA section (see Appendix for contact information) to see if it offers collegiate financial aid and, if it does, whether you qualify for this aid.

Need-Based Aid and Scholarships

While your first inclination—and it's a good one—might be to search for an athletic or tennis scholarship or financial aid, keep in mind that you are not limited to aid related to athletics and that you, the student player, can apply for need-based aid and scholarships just as your peers can. In fact, there are many more opportunities for aid that are not related to tennis than for tennis-related aid. Further, even if you receive a tennis scholarship, you may still need additional financial aid to cover your college costs.

The College Board has two very comprehensive publications that can help you in your search for financial aid and/or scholarships. *Getting Financial Aid 2010* gives you "the financial aid picture" for each of more than 3,000 colleges, universities, and technical schools, including a planning calendar showing key

financial aid application deadlines and step-by-step guides to filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and other forms. The *Scholarship Handbook 2010* provides information on 2,100 programs that award college funding to 1.7 million students each year. Special features include helpful indexes that match you to scholarships you qualify for based on state of residence, field of study, and other criteria, the number of applicants for each award so you can gauge your chances, and planning worksheets to help you keep track of your applications and meet deadlines. To learn more about these publications, go to www.collegeboard.com, click on For Parents and then on Where the Scholarships Are. You will also find helpful articles on developing a scholarship application strategy at this site.

The sources of financial aid are limitless—grants, student loans, scholarships, work-study programs. Early on in your senior year of high school, you should file your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is mandatory if you apply for any kind of Federal aid, including Pell Grants, Perkins Loans, Stafford Loans, and Federal Work Study. The form is also used by private colleges and universities and individual states for grants and loans. The application is available at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Sources of General Financial Aid

Listed below are major sources of scholarships and financial aid.

- **Colleges and Universities:** Remember those NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA schools we discussed above? Well, in addition to the limited tennis-related aid that these schools provide, they offer multiple types of aid that are not related to tennis. Tennis coaches at the colleges you're interested in can give you this information or you can go to the Web site of the school and look up financial aid. **Most scholarship/financial aid components of school Web sites are incredibly detailed and provide a quick way for you to identify all sources of aid a particular college or university offers.** Be sure you know the types of aid and the requirements for receiving aid of the schools you apply to. For example, some schools only provide need-based aid and all have an academic requirement. Then carefully complete the application.
- **Government Programs:** As mentioned above, you must file your FAFSA form to apply for Federal grants and loans. You will find helpful information on how to do this as well as a number of useful publications on federal student aid programs at www.studentaid.ed.gov. See below for additional Web sites that provide information on government scholarships and other financial aid.
- **Foundations**
- **Professional Associations**
- **Employers** (Your parents or your own)
- **Civic and Community Groups**
- **Private Loans**

Financial Aid/Scholarship Web Sites

As mentioned above, colleges and universities have very detailed financial aid links on their Web sites, so be sure to review these carefully. In addition, there are many scholarships/financial aid search Web sites that can put you in touch with sources of aid you might not otherwise know of and help you with the application process. There is usually no charge to use these sites. Several of these Web sites, all of which were active at the time this publication went to press, are listed on page 14. (Please note: The USTA does not endorse any of these sites.)

- www.brokescholar.com
- www.careersandcolleges.com
- www.collegenet.com
- www.ed.gov (search for college financial aid)
- www.fastweb.com
- www.federalstudentaid.ed.gov
- www.findtuition.com
- www.freescholarshipguide.com
- www.gocollege.com
- www.scholarships.com
- www.students.gov

When searching for financial aid, it's always important to be cautious regarding unscrupulous individuals or services who might try to take advantage of you. We suggest you read "Can You Spot a Scholarship Scam?" It can be found on the College Board Web site at www.collegeboard.com. Go to For Parents and click on "Can You Spot a Scholarship Scam?"

RESOURCE AIDS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

United States Tennis Association (USTA)— www.usta.com

NCAA—www.ncaa.org

NAIA—www.naia.org

NJCAA—www.njcaa.org

USTA Serves—Foundation for Academics. Character. Excellence.—Go to www.usta.com and click on USTA Serves at the bottom of the home page.

USTA sections—See the Appendix for contact information.

College Board—*Getting Financial Aid 2010* and the *Scholarship Handbook 2010*. View at www.collegeboard.com.

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)—Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Federal Student Aid—Go to www.studentaid.ed.gov. This Web site has a number of publications and other useful information about federal student aid programs.

"Can You Spot a Scholarship Scam?"—Go to the College Board Web site at www.collegeboard.com. Click on For Parents and click on "Can You Spot a Scholarship Scam?"

The e-mail addresses for a number of scholarship/financial aid Web sites are provided above.

Complete contact information for the USTA national and sectional offices and the NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA can be found in the Appendix.

Part II

VARSITY TENNIS

Chapter 4

Varsity Tennis—Taking Your Game to the Next Level

Varsity tennis programs are available at NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA colleges and universities throughout the country—there are more than 2,000 Men's and Women's tennis teams at these schools. These programs offer highly competitive intercollegiate competition. Varsity programs are funded by the school, hire coaches, recruit, and make competitive cuts. Many schools with varsity teams offer tennis scholarships for players (as discussed in Chapter 3). As a varsity tennis player, you will be known as a student-athlete, a title that puts the emphasis where it belongs—on academics and tennis.

If you want a truly competitive tennis experience while representing your college or university in the camaraderie of a team environment, varsity tennis is for you. You will not only improve your game, but you will also learn responsibility, perseverance, time management, sportsmanship, and the importance of teamwork, all necessary qualities for future success whether on the pro tour or in a business or professional career. The broad opportunities to travel to other parts of the country for tournaments will teach you about different lifestyles and values, and nothing quite matches the excitement of the National Collegiate Championships—the capstone of the varsity tennis year.

Many successful pro players credit their college experience as being the best preparation for a professional tennis career. To their way of thinking, attending college before turning pro is definitely an advantage.

College tennis is an important step in the developmental path for our junior players. The collegiate varsity structure allows players to improve their game in a highly competitive team environment. At 18 many players lack the physical and emotional maturity necessary for the professional tour. Success at the collegiate level has prepared many great players for their pro careers and will continue to do so.

—Jay Berger, Head of Men's Tennis, United States Tennis Association. Berger was a two-time All-American at Clemson University and was ranked as high as #7 on the ATP Tour.

Before I went to college, my father told me these would be the best years of my life. They were! During my years at Northwestern, college tennis enhanced my growth as a player and a person. My game improved immensely, and my teammates are friends who will last my lifetime.

—Todd Martin, Coach of Novak Djokovic and Junior Tennis Consultant. Martin was the #1 college player in the nation during his sophomore year at Northwestern University. A two-time Grand Slam runner-up, Martin held a career high singles ranking of #4 on the ATP Tour.

Playing two years of college tennis helped me to mature as a player and a person. It also made the transition to the pro tour much easier and prepared me for many other responsibilities.

—Lori McNeil, National Coach, United States Tennis Association. McNeil was an All-American at Oklahoma State University and later semifinalist at the US Open in 1987 and at Wimbledon in 1994. McNeil held a career high singles ranking of #9 on the WTA Tour and was winner of 10 singles and 32 doubles titles.

And you don't need to become a tennis pro to reap the benefits of playing varsity tennis in college. It's evident that most collegiate varsity tennis players will not turn pro when they leave school; nevertheless, the skills and competencies gained from being on a varsity team will help you in whatever career or profession you enter after college.

My college years as a tennis player at Michigan State University allowed me to embrace the balancing act that many working mothers manage today. At a macro level, being a student-athlete at a Big Ten school taught me the value of being a little different and what options might come your way if you are unique among the masses. At a micro level, it ignited a competitive fire that still burns inside me, an appreciation for team, and the value of listening to others in an effort to make the whole better. My experience with tennis makes me a better wife, mother, community leader, and agent and for that I am forever grateful to this sport.

—Molly Fletcher, President, Client Representation, Career Sports & Entertainment. Fletcher manages the direction, strategy, and daily operations of client representation. In this role, she negotiates contracts, appearances, endorsements, and sponsorships for CS&E's individual clients. Current clients include Doc Rivers, John Smoltz, Jeff Francoeur, Ernie Johnson, and Ryuji Imada.

Playing tennis in college was important for me on many fronts. While obtaining an outstanding education, I learned important time management and leadership skills and broadened my horizons by traveling to thirty states. In addition, my game improved, I had a lot of fun competing, and I made some great friends. My positive experiences on and off the court at college have been a major factor in my desire to volunteer and give back to this great game.

—Jon Vegosen, First Vice-President, United States Tennis Association. Vegosen, who was a team captain at Northwestern University, is a successful attorney in Chicago.

When to Start Planning for College and What's Unique in the Application Process for the Student-Athlete

If you want to play varsity tennis in college, it is never too soon to start planning. Even as a high school freshman, you should begin thinking about the part of the country, class size, and academic environment in which you want to spend your college years (see Chapter 1). And, of course, as a prospective student-athlete, you will want to know which colleges offer the varsity tennis-playing option that you'll be most happy with. You should also begin to compile your tennis records early on; college coaches are especially interested in your record of matches against ranked players.

The remaining chapters of Part II will cover the key topics you need to understand when evaluating and selecting a college or university with a varsity tennis program. Here we will just briefly summarize the two areas that make selecting and obtaining entry to college different for the student-athlete than for the general population.

Academics

As a prospective student-athlete, you need to be concerned about three areas of academic preparation.

1. The courses and grades you need to graduate from high school.
2. The courses and grades you need to get into the colleges and universities you will ultimately apply to.
3. The courses and grades you need to meet the requirements of the three major athletic collegiate governing bodies: the NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA.

The general population of students applying to college need to be concerned only about the first two, but the student-athlete must meet the third academic requirement as well. Meet regularly with your high school guidance counselor to make sure you are taking the courses you need to graduate. Start researching colleges you think you might like to attend to understand their requirements for entry, and become familiar with the NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA core academic and test requirements. Remember, the academic requirements of the athletic governing bodies may not be the same as those of the college you want to attend, so you need to know both. The three athletic collegiate governing bodies and issues of academic eligibility are covered in depth in Chapters 5 and 6, respectively.

Amateurism

Simply put, the prospective student-athlete must be an amateur in the sport he or she wishes to play on a college varsity team. Amateurism eligibility and maintaining amateur status are covered in Chapter 6.

Chapter 5

Collegiate Athletic Associations— What You Need to Know

As a prospective student-athlete, it is important that you be very familiar with the three major collegiate athletic governing organizations, the different tennis-playing options each offers, their requirements for team eligibility, and their recruitment methods. The three organizations are the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), and the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA).

NCAA

The NCAA, which was established in 1906, serves as the national governing body for approximately 1,050 colleges and universities that host more than 1,600 tennis teams. The member colleges and universities develop the rules and guidelines for athletic eligibility and competition for each of its three divisions. One of the differences between the three divisions is that Divisions I and II schools may offer tennis scholarships, while Division III schools cannot. It's also important for the college-bound student-athlete to know that of the three collegiate organizations, the NCAA (and especially Divisions I and II) has more stringent requirements for eligibility and recruitment than the NAIA and NJCAA. A student-athlete who can meet NCAA Division I and II requirements should have no problem qualifying for NCAA III, NAIA, or NJCAA eligibility.

In Chapters 6 and 7 of this guide, we will outline the key things the prospective student-athlete needs to know about the NCAA. However, the reader is advised to review the *NCAA Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete* for in-depth information on important topics, including academic eligibility, amateurism eligibility, registration with the NCAA Eligibility Center, and recruitment practices. To review or print the guide, go to the NCAA Web site at www.ncaa.org, click on NCAA Publications.com and then on the title of the 2009-2010 guide. And while you're there, check out all the other useful information about the NCAA.

NAIA

The NAIA is comprised of 300 accredited four-year colleges and universities in the United States and Canada that together have approximately 225 tennis teams. NAIA schools typically offer smaller class sizes and close-knit campuses, the flexibility to transfer without missing a season of eligibility, fewer recruiting restrictions, championship opportunities, and a more streamlined process of establishing academic eligibility. NAIA's focus is on the education and character development of the student-athlete. For more information on NAIA schools and to review "A Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete" go to www.naia.org, click on Membership Services, then on Attend an NAIA School, and then on the title of the guide.

NJCAA

The NJCAA is comprised of 523 two-year colleges and institutions accredited by state and/or regional accrediting agencies. These schools have approximately 170 tennis teams. The Association promotes and fosters junior/community college athletics while keeping within the high academic standards of its member institutions. Junior colleges can be a great way to begin your collegiate tennis experience. After two years, the student-athlete has the opportunity to transfer to a four-year college for his/her junior and senior years without missing a season of athletic eligibility. For more information on NJCAA schools, review “Information for a Prospective NJCAA Student-Athlete” and other useful topics at www.njcaa.org. For the most recent copy of the information guide, go to www.njcaa.org, click on Today’s NJCAA, then on Eligibility Corner, then on 2009-2010 Prospective Student Brochure.

Chapter 6 covers the important issue of eligibility as it relates to the three athletic governing organizations, while Chapter 7 provides an overview of their recruitment methods.

RESOURCE AIDS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

NCAA—*Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete* is available along with other useful information about the NCAA at www.ncaa.org. See above for detailed information on how to get to the guide.

NAIA—“A Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete” is available along with other useful information about the NAIA at www.naia.org. See above for detailed information on how to get to the guide.

NJCAA—“Information for a Prospective NJCAA Student-Athlete” and other useful information about the NJCAA is available at www.njcaa.org. See above for detailed information on how to get to the guide.

Complete contact information for the NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA can be found in the Appendix.

Chapter 6

Eligibility—Academic and Amateurism

During your quest to find the college or university with the varsity tennis program that's right for you, there is probably no topic that you will encounter more frequently than "eligibility." It can be confusing, but it needn't be. Put simply, the distinction you need to understand here is really in regard to two kinds of eligibility—academic and amateurism—for athletic participation at an NCAA, NAIA, or NJCAA college or university. As with most other criteria, the NCAA has the most rigorous requirements for both kinds of eligibility.

It is also important to understand that establishing academic and amateurism eligibility for any of the three major collegiate athletic governing organizations does not mean that you will also automatically be accepted by the school you are interested in. You still need to go through the regular application process that the school requires.

Chapter 6 outlines academic and amateurism eligibility requirements (both at the time when the student is seeking to enroll in college and after enrollment in college) of the NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA.

NCAA Eligibility

The evaluation and determination of academic and amateurism eligibility are handled differently by the three NCAA divisions. Here's how it breaks down:

- In NCAA Divisions I and II, the NCAA Eligibility Center analyzes and determines both academic and amateurism eligibility for athletic participation in their colleges and universities.
- In NCAA Division III, certification of academic and amateurism eligibility is determined by each NCAA Division III college or university, not by the Eligibility Center.

For Divisions I and II, the NCAA Eligibility Center determines a student's eligibility for athletics participation. It analyzes and processes a student's high school academic records, ACT or SAT score, and key information about amateurism participation to determine the student's initial eligibility. Students who want to participate in sports during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division I or II college or university must register with the Eligibility Center.

Prospective student-athletes should register with the Eligibility Center for both academic and amateurism eligibility determination after their junior year in high school. Registration should be done online at www.eligibilitycenter.org. Registration with the Eligibility Center does the following:

- It authorizes each high school you have attended to send the Eligibility Center your academic transcripts, test scores, proof of graduation, and other necessary academic information.

- It authorizes the Eligibility Center to send your academic information to all colleges that request eligibility information.

In registering with the Eligibility Center, you will also be asked to answer a series of questions regarding your amateur status, the first step in certifying your amateurism.

Academic Eligibility

NCAA Division I

Students enrolling in a Division I college or university who want to participate in athletics during their first year of enrollment must:

- Graduate from high school.
- Complete a 16-core course requirement. Ask your high school guidance counselor for a list of NCAA-approved core courses or view them in the *NCAA Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete*, which is available at www.ncaa.org.
- Earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches the core course GPA and test score sliding scale as determined by the Eligibility Center (e.g., a 2.4 core course GPA average needs an 860 SAT score or a 71 ACT score). The minimum GPA permissible for core courses is 2.0, which is based on a SAT score of 1010 and an ACT score of 86. See the *NCAA Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete* for how this is calculated. The guide is available at www.ncaa.org. The SAT score is calculated using the verbal/critical reading and math subsections of the test, while the ACT score is calculated using the math, science, English, and reading subsections of the test. The writing component of the ACT and SAT is not used to determine qualifier status.

NCAA Division II

Students enrolling in a Division II college or university who want to participate in athletics during their first year of enrollment must:

- Graduate from high school.
- Complete the 14-core course requirement for the Eligibility Center.*
- Earn a minimum GPA of 2.0 in the core courses.
- Earn a combined SAT score of 820 or ACT sum score of 68.

*As of August 1, 2013, this requirement changes to 16 core courses.

To maintain academic eligibility in Division I and II schools, student-athletes must demonstrate satisfactory progress toward a recognized baccalaureate or graduate degree and maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 and be taking an average of 12 credit hours per semester.

NCAA Division III

NCAA Division III does not use the NCAA Eligibility Center. Division III colleges and universities determine initial academic eligibility for participation in sports at their schools. They also determine requirements for maintaining academic eligibility once students are enrolled in a Division III college. Prospective student-athletes should contact the Division III schools they are interested in attending for information on academic eligibility.

Amateurism Eligibility

NCAA Divisions I and II

The NCAA Eligibility Center determines the amateurism eligibility of all freshman and transfer prospective student-athletes enrolling in an NCAA Division I or II member school.

A prospective student-athlete must be certified as an amateur to participate in varsity-level tennis. The types of activities that will be reviewed to determine amateur status are listed at the end of this chapter. Additional information regarding NCAA amateurism requirements is available at www.ncaa.org. and eligibilitycenter.org.

NCAA Division III

NCAA Division III colleges and universities determine amateurism eligibility for participation in sports at their schools. Prospective student-athletes should contact the Division III schools they are interested in attending.

Once enrolled in college, all three NCAA divisions require the student-athlete to maintain amateur status throughout college. The rules vary slightly among Division I, II, and III schools. The coach or athletic director of the school in question can provide the student-athlete with this important information.

NAIA Eligibility

Academic Eligibility

The NAIA does not use a clearinghouse to determine either academic or amateurism eligibility. To meet the academic eligibility requirements of NAIA schools, an entering freshman must: (1) be a graduate of an accredited high school and be accepted as a regular student in good standing as defined by the enrolling institution, and (2) meet **two of the three** following requirements:

- Achieve a minimum composite score of 18 on the ACT test or 860 on the SAT test. The SAT score must be achieved on the critical reading and math sections of the exam only, while the ACT composite score is calculated using the average of the scores from the math, science, English, and reading sections of the test. The test score must be achieved at a **single test sitting** administered by a certified tester on a National or International testing date. **Residual tests are not acceptable**. The ACT/SAT test must be taken prior to the beginning of the term in which the student initially participates.
- Achieve a minimum overall high school GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Graduate in the upper half of his or her high school graduating class. This is interpreted to mean the class ranking listed on the student's final high school transcript. High schools that do not rank students may elect to certify that the student has met this requirement.

For information on academic eligibility requirements for transfer students and more detailed information on eligibility in general, go to www.naia.org.

To maintain academic eligibility once enrolled in an NAIA school, a student-athlete must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits per semester, be making normal progress toward a baccalaureate degree, and maintain the GPA required of the institution he or she is attending.

Amateurism Eligibility

A prospective student-athlete must be an amateur as defined by the NAIA. Further, he or she must maintain amateur status throughout college. Your athletic director or faculty athletics representative can provide you with information on all amateur regulations as defined in the NAIA bylaws or you can review the NAIA bylaws at www.naia.org.

NJCAA Eligibility

Note: Due to the unique academic and athletic situation of each individual and the complexity of NJCAA eligibility rules, it is recommended that prospective student-athletes discuss their athletic eligibility with the athletic personnel at the NJCAA colleges they are interested in attending.

Academic Eligibility

The NJCAA does not use a clearinghouse to determine either academic or amateurism eligibility. Entering freshmen can meet the academic eligibility requirements of NJCAA schools in **one** of the following ways:

- Be a high school graduate with an academic diploma or pass the General Education Development (GED) test. The high school must not be a high school affected by the NCAA Initial Eligibility process at the time of the student-athlete's enrollment. See list of high schools affected by the NCAA Initial Eligibility process on the NCAA Web site.
- Non-high school graduates can establish academic eligibility by completing one term of college work during which they pass 12 credits and achieve a GPA of 1.75 or higher. This term must be taken after the student's high school class has graduated.
- Non-high school graduates who have earned sufficient credit for high school graduation status can establish eligibility for athletic participation by completing one term of college work during which they pass 12 credits with a GPA of 1.75 or higher. This term can be completed before the student's high school class has graduated.
- Students who are completing high school while simultaneously enrolled in 12 or more credits at a college are eligible for athletic participation if they complete a NJCAA High School Waiver form (Form 3.E) and have it signed by their high school principal and their college president. This option is available only to those students whose high school class has not graduated at the time the student enrolls in college.

Detailed information on NJCAA eligibility requirements for all students, including transfer students, can be found in the *2009-2010 NJCAA Eligibility Rules Pamphlet*. This publication can be downloaded from the NJCAA Web site. Go to www.NJCAA.org, click on Today's NJCAA, click on Eligibility Corner and then on the title of the pamphlet.

To maintain academic eligibility, student-athletes entering their second term must have passed a minimum of 12 credit hours with a 1.75 GPA or higher in their previous full-time term. Student-athletes entering their third term and beyond must have a minimum total accumulation of 12 credit hours for each previous full-time term with a 2.00 GPA or higher. The student-athlete must also be making progress toward graduation.

Amateurism Eligibility

A prospective student-athlete must be an amateur as defined by the NJCAA. Further, he or she must maintain amateur status throughout college. To be sure of your amateur status, check the NJCAA amateur rules, which can be found in the *2009-2010 NJCAA Eligibility Rules Pamphlet* (see above section on Academic Eligibility for information on how to download this pamphlet from the NJCAA Web site).

Benefits and Activities That Can Impact Amateur Status

The high school tennis player and the college student-athlete need to be very careful not to engage in activities that might negatively impact their amateur status and thereby preclude them from playing varsity tennis in college. To be absolutely sure that they are in compliance with the amateurism requirements of the three collegiate athletic governing bodies, these players should check with their coaches, athletic directors, or the handbooks of and/or personnel at the NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA. Listed below are some of the primary activities that may cause a current or prospective college varsity tennis player to lose amateur status:

- Signing a contract with a professional team.
- Receiving a salary for participating in athletics.
- Accepting prize money for athletic activities that exceeds expenses.
- Receiving compensation beyond expenses from a professional team.
- Receiving benefits from an agent or prospective agent.
- Agreeing to be represented by an agent.
- Accepting payment of educational expenses from an individual (or entity) other than the prospect's parents.
- Delaying enrollment in college and participating in organized competition during the time of delayed enrollment.

RESOURCE AIDS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

NCAA—*Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete* is available along with other useful information about the NCAA at www.ncaa.org. For the current guide, go to www.ncaa.org, click on NCAA Publications.com, and then on the 2009-2010 copy of the guide.

NAIA—“A Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete” is available along with other useful information about the NAIA at www.naia.org. For the guide, go to www.naia.org, click on Membership Services, then on Attend an NAIA School. This will take you to a page where you can click on “A Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.”

NJCAA—“Information for a Prospective NJCAA Student-Athlete” and other useful information about the NJCAA is available at www.njcaa.org. For the information guide, go to www.njcaa.org, click on Today's NJCAA, then on Eligibility Corner, then on 2009-2010 Prospective Student Brochure. This takes you to the most recent copy of “Information for a Prospective NJCAA Student-Athlete.”

NCAA Eligibility Center—www.eligibilitycenter.org.

2009-2010 NJCAA Eligibility Rules Pamphlet. This publication can be downloaded from the NJCAA Web site. Go to www.NJCAA.org, click on Today's NJCAA, click on Eligibility Corner and then on the title of the pamphlet.

Complete contact information for the NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA, and the NCAA Eligibility Center can be found in the Appendix.

Chapter 7

The Recruiting Process

For the prospective student-athlete, an understanding of the recruitment rules of the three collegiate athletic associations is equal in importance to an understanding of their academic and amateurism eligibility requirements. Recruiting for athletic teams is done by college coaches. When a college coach calls a student, sends written materials, watches the student practice or play, or makes in-person contact, that is called recruiting. As with eligibility requirements, the NCAA has more stringent recruitment rules, especially for Division I, than either the NAIA or the NJCAA. In this chapter, we will highlight the recruitment rules of the NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA.

Recruitment Terms

Before outlining the recruitment rules of the collegiate athletic organizations, prospective student-athletes and their parents should understand the following recruitment terms:

Prospective Student-Athlete (PSA): A high school student who plans to play a sport at the varsity level in college.

Recruitment Materials: Any documents (printed or electronic) promoting a specific college or university and its athletic program, including but not limited to general correspondence, business cards, media guides, note cards, and e-mails.

Contact: Any face-to-face encounter between you as a prospective student-athlete or your parents, relatives, or legal guardians and a coach (or other college staff member) during which dialogue in excess of an exchange of a greeting occurs.

Dead Period: A period in which the college coach may not have any in-person contact with you or your parents, although the coach may write and telephone you or your parents during this time.

Official Campus Visit: A visit by a prospective student-athlete to a college campus paid for in whole or in part by the college. Also referred to as a "paid visit."

Unofficial Campus Visit: A visit by a prospective student-athlete to a college campus made at the student's own expense.

Evaluation: Any off-campus activity designed to assess the athletic and/or academic qualifications of a prospective student-athlete by a member of a college's athletics staff.

Tryout: Any physical activity at which one or more prospective student-athletes reveal, demonstrate, or display athletic abilities in a sport. Generally, tryouts are not allowed during visits to NCAA Division I and

Division III schools. They are allowed at NCAA Division II schools only if certain criteria are met (contact the NCAA for more details). See NAIA and NJCAA recruitment rules in this chapter for their policies on tryouts.

Offers and Inducements: An offer by a coach (or other college staff member) of financial aid or other benefits to a prospective student athlete or his or her parents, guardians, relatives, or friends other than what may be allowed by the applicable collegiate governing organization. See NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA Web sites for details.

NCAA Recruitment Rules

NCAA Division I	GRADE 10
Recruiting materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires
Phone calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may make calls to coaches at your own expense• College coaches cannot call you
Off-campus contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No off-campus contact is allowed
Official campus visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No official campus visits are allowed
Unofficial campus visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial campus visits
GRADE 11	
Recruiting materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may begin receiving September 1 of your junior year
Phone calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may make calls to coaches at your own expense• Coaches may call you once per week starting July 1 after your junior year
Off-campus contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allowed starting July 1 after your junior year
Official campus visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No official campus visits are allowed
Unofficial campus visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits
GRADE 12	
Recruiting materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allowed
Phone calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may make calls to coaches at your own expense• Coaches may call you once a week
Off-campus contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may contact coaches as often as you want• Coaches may contact you no more than three times during your senior year
Official campus visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allowed beginning opening day of classes of your senior year• You are limited to one official visit per college up to a maximum of five official visits
Unofficial campus visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits
Evaluations and contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Up to seven times during your senior year

NCAA	Division II	Division III
Recruiting materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After September 1 of your junior year, coaches are allowed to begin sending you printed recruiting materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive printed recruiting materials at anytime
Phone calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College coaches may call you once per week beginning June 15 between your junior and senior year You may make calls to coaches at your own expense 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no limit to the number of calls a coach can make to you DIII coaches may contact you as early as your freshman year You may make calls to coaches at your own expense
Off-campus contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginning June 15 between your junior and senior year, college coaches may have off-campus contact with you or your parents or legal guardians Coaches are limited to three in-person contacts off-campus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After your junior year, coaches may have contact with you or your parents or legal guardians
Official campus visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowed beginning opening day of classes of your senior year You are limited to one official visit per college up to a maximum of five official visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowed beginning opening day of classes of your senior year You are allowed an unlimited number of official visits, but only one official visit per college
Unofficial campus visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unlimited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unlimited

NAIA Recruitment Rules

As mentioned above, the NAIA recruitment process is less cumbersome than the NCAA's. It has few restrictions on contacts between a prospective student-athlete and a coach. NAIA recruitment rules are as follows:

- Recruiting materials:** You may receive printed recruiting materials at any time.
- Phone calls:** There are no limits set by the NAIA.
- Off-campus contacts:** There are no limits set by the NAIA. Some states, however, may impose limits. You should check with the schools you are interested in.
- Official and unofficial campus visits:** There are no limits set by the NAIA. Each NAIA institution, however, sets its own limits. You should check with the schools you are interested in.
- Tryouts:** Individual or group tryouts can only be conducted on campus if tryouts are a general part of the institutional policy for the procurement of students with special talents.

NJCAA Recruitment Rules

NJCAA recruitment rules are as follows:

- **Recruiting materials:** You may receive printed recruiting materials at any time.
- **Phone calls:** There are no limits set by the NJCAA.
- **Off-campus contacts:** There are no limits set by the NJCAA.
- **Official campus visits:** A school may pay for one visit to its campus for a stay not to exceed two days and two nights.
- **Unofficial campus visits:** There are no limits set by the NJCAA.
- **Tryouts:** Before allowing a high school student to try out, a member college shall determine if tryouts are allowed by the existing State High School Activities Association regulations in the athlete's home state.

For further clarification of NJCAA recruiting rules, see *2009-2010 NJCAA Eligibility Rules Pamphlet*. It can be downloaded from the NJCAA Web site. Go to www.NJCAA.org, click on Today's NJCAA, then click on Eligibility Center, next click on the title of the pamphlet and go to p. 18.

National Letter of Intent

The National Letter of Intent (NLI) program is a voluntary program administered by the NCAA Eligibility Center. The Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA) provides governance oversight of the program. By signing a National Letter of Intent, a prospective student-athlete agrees to attend the designated college or university for one academic year, and the institution agrees to provide financial aid to the student for that academic year. It is very important that the prospective student-athlete register with the NCAA Eligibility Center if he or she wants to participate in the National Letter of Intent program, because a school cannot offer a student a NLI until the student is registered.

All NCAA Division I schools, with the exception of the Service Academies and schools in the Ivy League, participate in the program. Most fully active NCAA Division II schools also participate. NCAA Division III, NAIA, and junior and community colleges do not participate in the program. The NLI has the following advantages:

- Once a prospective student-athlete signs a NLI, other institutions participating in the NLI program are prohibited from recruiting the student.
- Student-athletes are assured of an athletic scholarship for one full academic year. The only exceptions to this would be if the student is not accepted by the school he or she signed the NLI with OR if the student became a non-qualifier. In either case, the NLI would become null and void.
- Institutions are assured that the student-athlete will attend their school, and they do not need to continue recruiting for that position on the team.

There are two signing periods for the National Letter of Intent, an early one in November, which lasts for one week, and another that starts in early April and ends on August 1 of each year. Before signing a NLI, the prospective student-athlete should also be sure he or she meets the academic eligibility requirements of the school in question as well.

The Web site for the NLI program has comprehensive information on the program, including detailed guidelines, frequently asked questions, and signing dates. To review, go to www.national-letter.org.

NAIA and NJCAA Schools

Although NAIA schools do not participate in the NLI program, some conferences may require a letter of intent from the prospective student-athlete. You should check with the conference office of each school you are interested in to determine its policy.

The NJCAA uses its own Letter of Intent. The NJCAA Letter of Intent is valid only for NJCAA schools and has no jurisdiction over NCAA or NAIA colleges. A student can only sign one NJCAA Letter of Intent. In doing so, the student agrees to attend the designated college or university for one academic year and the institution agrees to provide financial aid to the student for that academic year. An NJCAA Letter of Intent may not be signed before mid-January of your senior year.

Tennis Recruiting Network

The Tennis Recruiting Network (www.tennisrecruiting.net) is an excellent recruiting resource utilized by both prospective student-athletes and college coaches in the recruiting process. With a mission of enabling junior players to play at the college of their choice, the Tennis Recruiting Network has been very successful in connecting players to the right college and tennis program. The Tennis Recruiting Network uses the graduation year to rank players and produces new rankings on a weekly basis. It also allows players free registration—and the ability to update most information for college coaches free of charge.

RESOURCE AIDS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

NCAA—*Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete* is available along with other useful information about the NCAA at www.ncaa.org. For the current guide, go to www.ncaa.org, click on NCAA Publications.com, and then on the 2009-2010 copy of the guide.

NAIA—“A Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete” is available along with other useful information about the NAIA at www.naia.org. For the guide, go to www.naia.org, click on Membership Services, then on Attend an NAIA School. This will take you to a page where you can click on “A Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.”

NJCAA—“Information for a Prospective NJCAA Student-Athlete” and other useful information about the NJCAA is available at www.njcaa.org. For the information guide, go to www.njcaa.org, click on Today’s NJCAA, then on Eligibility Corner, then on 2009-2010 Prospective Student Brochure. This takes you to the most recent copy (July 1, 2009) of “Information for a Prospective NJCAA Student-Athlete.”

National Letter of Intent Program—www.national-letter.org

2009-2010 NJCAA Eligibility Rules Pamphlet. This publication can be downloaded from the NJCAA Web site. Go to www.NJCAA.org, click on Today’s NJCAA, click on Eligibility Corner and then on the title of the pamphlet.

Tennis Recruiting Network—www.tennisrecruiting.net

Complete contact information for the NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA can be found in the Appendix.

Chapter 8

Finding the Right School for You

Now that you understand eligibility requirements and recruitment methods governing varsity tennis participation in college as well as the role of the NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA, it is time to begin the serious task of selecting that all-important college that you will attend for the next two or four years. Hopefully, you have maintained good grades and kept track of your tennis records, especially matches against ranked players. If these two areas need further work, start now and don't let up on either.

By your junior year of high school, you should begin the process of identifying the college you want to attend. As you do, keep in mind that as a prospective student-athlete, you have to meet two entrance or acceptance requirements: (1) those of the school you want to attend, and (2) those of the national athletic governing body that the school in question is a member of. These are not necessarily the same, so you have to know the requirements of each and meet both.

Compiling a List of Prospective Schools

Perhaps one of the best ways to begin this complex process is to factor in all the academic, tennis-related, and general criteria that you want a college to meet (refer to the list of questions in Chapter 1). If, for example, you know you want to attend a college on the West Coast, there's no reason to look at Princeton or James Madison University. If a school with an enrollment of fewer than 5,000 students appeals to you, you might consider the University of Minnesota–Crookston or Barnard College, but not Boston University or Florida A&M. Do you prefer a city or small town environment? How important is an active social life to you? Do you want or need to be within a short commuting distance from your home? By honestly answering all of these questions, you will save yourself a great deal of time in narrowing down your list of potential colleges.

Once you have established the criteria you want a college to meet, begin to compile a list of schools that meet your criteria. The College Board's Web site allows you to search its database of colleges by a number of criteria, including geographic region, enrollment, academic program, cost, etc. This database contains comprehensive information about the colleges in it, including admissions criteria, deadlines, fees, etc. However, this database can also be useful in identifying schools that have tennis programs. To find tennis programs on the College Board's Web site, go to www.collegeboard.com and click on For Students. Go to Find a College, click on it and then click on College Search Matchmaker. Click on Sports and Activities and under Sports, go to Tennis (either Men's or Women's) and click on See Results. This will bring up a list of all the colleges that have tennis programs (either Men's or Women's). Currently, the College Board Web site lists 1,630 colleges that have Men's tennis teams and 1,721 colleges that have Women's tennis teams. You can then sort by a number of criteria, including schools arranged alphabetically by state, enrollment size, tuition and fees, etc. Once you have your desired list of colleges arranged, for example, alphabetically by state, you can look at the Profile of any school in the states where you would like to attend college. On the Profile click on Sports to see what tennis programs are offered. Both varsity and recreational programs are listed.

The Tennis Recruiting Network (www.tennisrecruiting.net), in addition to being an excellent recruiting resource as discussed in Chapter 7, provides information regarding enrollments, city size, majors offered, and tennis programs for many colleges and universities. With a mission of enabling junior players to play at the college of their choice, the Tennis Recruiting Network has been very successful in connecting players to the right college and tennis program.

You can also use print and online general college directories, such as Peterson's, but this method requires more time to identify colleges with tennis programs. Finally, don't neglect your high school tennis coach. He or she could provide a wealth of information on schools that meet both your tennis and academic goals.

Do Your Research

Once you've compiled a tentative list of schools, talk to parents, relatives, friends, alumni of the schools, people you know who are attending the schools, your teaching pro, your high school tennis coach, college counselors, teachers, administrators—anyone who can provide additional information about these schools and their tennis programs and their assessment of you in regard to each school. Be open to adding other schools to your list—or deleting some—based on what you learn.

Write to these schools expressing your interest in them and requesting information. Don't write form letters; personalize them. Go back to those college Web sites and do additional research. Check each school's admissions requirements, and make sure you understand and can meet the academic and amateurism eligibility requirements of the athletic governing body of the schools you are interested in attending.

Although some of the athletic governing bodies have restrictions regarding when coaches can begin calling you (e.g., coaches in NCAA Division I schools cannot call until after July 1 of your junior year), there's nothing to stop you from calling them. The tennis coach will have a major impact on your college tennis career. Take the time to find out all you can about the coach's background, reputation, and coaching philosophy. Is this someone you would want to be associated with for the next number of years? Make your needs (academic, scholarship, position as a tennis team member, and others) known to the coach.

Attend College Expos and Forums, which are events held by USTA national or sectional staff or tournament directors prior to the beginning of a tournament. Some of these events offer opportunities for prospective student-athletes to meet one-on-one with college tennis coaches and to learn about the school's tennis team and players. To find out where College Expos and Forums will be held in your area, contact your USTA section (see the Appendix for contact information) or look at the online schedule at the USTA college tennis Web page (go to www.usta.com/USTA/Home/PlayerDevelopment/CollegeTennis.aspx. Under Resources, click on Prospective Student-Athletes, then on Collegiate Expos and Forums).

School Visits

You've heard the saying, "A picture is worth a thousand words." The same might be said of a school visit. Nothing quite compares to seeing college campuses upfront and personal in the college-selection process. You will gain a "feel" for the school that isn't possible from reading a catalog, researching online, or talking to people.

When to Visit

In planning your college visits, keep in mind the distinction between an official and unofficial visit (see Chapter 7). Briefly, you may make as many unofficial visits (i.e., where you or your parents pay all expenses

related to the trip) as you want, but there are restrictions on official visits (i.e., where the college pays all or part of your expenses). Additionally, official visits to an NCAA school cannot be made before your senior year. Keeping these requirements in mind, your school visits should occur:

- Only after you have determined that a particular school meets your needs.
- Usually during spring of your junior year or early fall of your senior year.

Schedule your visit four to six weeks ahead of time to ensure you will be able to meet with the tennis coach and other key individuals with whom you want to meet.

Be Prepared

Nothing turns off a college administrator or tennis coach more than a prospective student who turns up for a school visit unprepared. Be sure to:

- Read the college catalog and review its Web site.
- Read the recruiting materials the coach sent you.
- Make a list of questions that weren't answered by the materials you received or the Web site.
- Bring your high school profile, unofficial transcripts, and player profile with you.

The Visit

Relax! Remember the visit is a two-way street. You want to learn just as much about the college as the college wants to learn about you. Be honest. Listen well. You don't need to do all the talking. Have a list of questions in mind before your visit. It is best to use open-ended questions rather than questions that call for a "yes" or "no" answer. Start your questions with the five Ws—who, what, where, when, and why? You can also ask questions that start with "how" or "tell me about." When answering questions, talk about your strengths, interests, accomplishments, goals, and what you are looking for in a college experience.

Visit the academic departments you are interested in, and talk to faculty and students in those departments. Talk to the tennis coach and members of the tennis team. Be sure to check out the library, classrooms, labs, tennis facilities, gym, cafeteria, and living arrangements. And don't forget to read the campus newspaper.

Questions to Ask the Tennis Coach

- How would you describe your coaching style?
- Where do you see me fitting on the team?
- How many players in the starting lineup are freshmen or sophomores? (If there are quite a few and if they are stronger players than you are, when will you get to play?)
- How many positions on the team are available and what level of player(s) are you looking for?
- Where do you see this team next year? In four years?
- How much time is spent practicing/traveling/playing?
- What is the team's match schedule? Practice schedule?
- How many team members have an athletic scholarship?
- What is the team GPA?
- What is your philosophy on recruiting?
- How long do you expect to remain as coach at this school?
- How intense are your training and conditioning programs?
- What is a typical team practice like?

Questions to Ask Members of the Tennis Team

- How fair is the coach in dealing with team members?
- How are practice sessions organized and run?
- How have you improved as a player since joining this team?
- What do you like most about the other players on the team?
- Do you have ample time to succeed academically?
- Would you make the same choice of school again? Why? Why not?

After the Visit

- Write a follow-up letter or e-mail to the tennis coach, admissions officer, and other significant people you met and thank them for their time. If you are still interested in their school, be sure to enthusiastically express your interest.
- Evaluate each school (see below) and assess your chances of being accepted at the schools that interest you.
- Ask yourself: WOULD I REALLY ENJOY LIVING, STUDYING, AND PLAYING TENNIS AT THIS COLLEGE FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS?

Evaluating Colleges/Tennis Programs

When you visit a number of colleges, it is often difficult to remember everything you learned about each or even what you liked and didn't like about each. To avoid this, it's helpful to evaluate each school immediately after your visit. This way when it comes to decision time, you can compare these evaluations and make a reasoned choice. The following College/Tennis Program Rating Chart has been developed for this purpose. Assign a value of 1 to 10 for each criterion listed, with 1 being the lowest rating and 10 being the highest. Duplicate the form as often as you need to.

College/Tennis Program Rating Chart

(Assign a value of 1 to 10 for each criterion listed, with 1 being the lowest rating and 10 being the highest.
Duplicate the form as often as needed.)

CRITERIA	School A Date:	School B Date:	School C Date:	School D Date:
ACADEMIC CRITERIA				
Academic quality				
Academic reputation				
Quality of desired major course of study				
Quality of faculty				
Library depth and scope				
Classroom facilities				
Average class size				
Student/faculty ratio				
Can I handle the academic workload?				
TENNIS-RELATED CRITERIA				
Quality of varsity tennis team				
Quality of school's conference/level of competition				
Coach's coaching philosophy				
Coach's experience				
Coach's teaching ability				
Do I like the varsity coach?				
Assistant varsity coach's experience				
Quality of tennis schedule				
Can I manage the tennis schedule?				
# of days and hours of practice				
Can I manage the practice schedule?				
How much would I get to play?				
Where would I be in the lineup?				
Opportunity to improve my tennis				
Can I handle academics on this team?				
Compatibility with team members				
Quality of tennis facilities				
Conditioning/training				
GENERAL CRITERIA				
Cost of attending this college				
Annual scholarship/financial aid				
Compatibility with student body				
Student demographics and diversity				
Campus social life				
Quality of dorms or other housing				
Quality of cafeteria or other food services				
Distance from home				
Climate and geographic location				
What do I like most about this school?				
What do I like least about this school?				

Once you have completed all of the above steps, you will be able to generate that all-important list of the schools you will actually apply to. Further, having done the hard work of researching and visiting schools, asking questions, and evaluating what you saw and heard, you can have the confidence that these schools should meet your primary academic and tennis-playing goals.

Parents as Partners

The primary role of parents in the college-selection process is one of SUPPORT. Parents should serve as sounding boards for the many and often complex decisions their children will make during this time, raise questions that their children might not otherwise consider, and be honest in regard to the financial contribution they can make toward these college years. Parents can also play an important role in interceding on behalf of their children if a college coach becomes overly aggressive in pursuing them (young people often have a hard time saying no to authority figures). The important thing for parents to keep in mind is that this is a time for their children to pursue their goals and dreams and they, the parents, need to let them do that. In short, parents should play the role of “consultant/adviser” rather than “manager.”

RESOURCE AIDS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

College Board—www.collegeboard.com, go to Find a College, click on it and then click on College Search Matchmaker. Click on Sports and Activities and under Sports, go to Tennis (either Men's or Women's) and click on See Results. This will bring up a list of all the colleges that have tennis programs (either Men's or Women's).

Tennis Recruiting Network—www.tennisrecruiting.net

Also see online and print general college directories, such as Peterson's.

Chapter 9

Applying to Colleges

By fall of your senior year in high school, you should have the list of schools you want to apply to in hand. So let's get started. Once again, as a prospective student-athlete you have to meet two admissions criteria—the college's and the tennis team's.

Applying for Admission to the College

Taking the college admissions part first, go to the Web page and/or catalog of each college on your list and review the following:

- GPA requirements
- SAT or ACT requirements
- Class rank requirements
- Impact of extracurricular activities and summer experiences
- Financial aid policies
- Essay requirements
- Recommendations needed
- Early decision policy and, if applicable, decision date
- Deadlines for application
- Recommended way to file applications—electronically or by mail (If you file your applications by mail, be sure to keep copies of your applications.)

Now, start filling out those applications. Be thorough, honest, and accurate. If there is something on the application that is unclear, ask your high school counselor or the college's Admissions Office for clarification. Many college Web sites have a list of Frequently Asked Questions. Check this out first; it's likely to answer your question.

The Early Decision and Early Action processes require a brief explanation. When you apply to a school under Early Decision, you are telling the school that it is your first choice and that you are prepared to make a commitment to attend that school if you are accepted. It is a binding contract between you and the school. Most schools make these decisions in December. You can only apply to one school on an Early Decision basis, so make sure it's the school and tennis team you really want. If, on the other hand, you apply to a school on an Early Action basis, you are under no obligation to attend that school if you are accepted and you usually have until late April or early May to notify the school of your intention to accept or decline their offer of acceptance. Please note that college tennis coaches are less likely to help you get admitted if you apply on an Early Action basis, because by doing so you are indicating that you are not committed to attending their school even if you are admitted.

Securing a Position on the College Tennis Team

Let's now turn to securing a position on the varsity tennis team of the colleges on your list. You will need to send the following directly to the head coach of the team:

- A well-written cover letter or e-mail. Keep it short and simple. Provide basic information about yourself, both academic (GPA, SAT/ACT scores, the type of program you are taking, etc.) and tennis-related (current rankings and standings, best wins—and losses, strokes on which you are working to improve, sportsmanship awards, etc.). Add significant information on extracurricular activities and interests; coaches want players with broader interests than just tennis. Express your enthusiasm for becoming a member of the team and why you think you would be a good fit for it. If you will be seeking an athletic scholarship, indicate this in your letter. Be sure you know the coach's name and address it to him or her—no "Dear Coach" letters please. Finally, double-check that all of the information in your letter or e-mail is correct and proofread it carefully.
- Your Player Profile, which includes your contact information, name of and contact information for your high school and private tennis coaches, basic academic information, style of play, and your current ranking.
- Your USTA Player Record or Player Record on the Tennis Recruiting Network, which includes your USTA national and/or sectional junior tournament results, wins and losses, overall record, and current ranking. Your USTA Player Record can be found at www.usta.com. Your Tennis Recruiting Network Player Record can be found at www.tennisrecruiting.net. If you do not have a USTA or Tennis Recruiting Network Player Record or if you have results in addition to these tournament results that you would like to record and send to college coaches, you can create a list of your significant tournament wins and best losses and dates played over the last couple of years. For example, see below:

Player Name: Lisa Gruenwald		Residence: New York, NY			
Date	Age Division	Tournament	Opponent	Score	Result
8/16/05	Girls' 18	12th Annual City Champs	Haydee Thompson	6-3; 6-4	Won
8/18/05	Girls' 18	12th Annual City Champs	Olivia Remy	4-6; 6-4; 5-7	Lost
3/13/06	HS Tennis	Vs. Valley High	Emma Lawrence	6-2; 6-3	Won
5/12/06	HS Tennis	Vs. McDonalds Prep	Olivia Remy	6-3; 4-6; 6-4	Won

- Your Tournament Schedule, which includes the events you will be playing over the next several months. Coaches who haven't had a chance to see you play will know to look for you at these events if they are there.
- Some schools like to receive a video or DVD in which you introduce yourself, demonstrate your technique, and show parts of an actual match. Check with the schools to which you are applying to see if they want a video. Many schools prefer watching a video through a video-sharing Web site such as YouTube or other online video-sharing sites.

If you are seeking an academic scholarship from a school that requires you to sign a National Letter of Intent (see Chapter 7), keep in mind the early and final signing periods for this letter and how they relate to the acceptance date for general admission to the school. The following pages include samples of a cover letter or e-mail to the tennis coach and a Player Profile.

Sample Letter or E-Mail to the Tennis Coach*

**Your Name
Your Address
Your Telephone Number and/or Your E-Mail Address**

Date

**Name of Coach
Name of School
Street Address
City, State, Zip Code**

Dear Coach (*be sure to use the coach's name*):

I am ___ years old and a *senior* at *(name of your high school)*. My current GPA is ___, and my SAT scores are ___ (verbal) and ___ (math). I plan to major in _____ and have heard that *(name of college)* has an excellent undergraduate program in this area as well as a successful tennis program. *(If you have a definite career goal, you can state it here.)* I am very interested in attending *(name of college)* and playing for the *(school mascot)*.

In this paragraph, briefly describe your tennis background, your work ethic, and the areas of your game you have been working on with your coach. Describe your capabilities and interest in both singles and doubles play and why you feel you would be a good fit for the college team.

In this paragraph, describe your extracurricular activities, including other sports you play. If you are a class officer, member of the Honor Society, or if you have received any major awards, include this information.

Enclosed (use "attached" if you are sending an e-mail) are my player profile, player record, and tournament schedule.

Please send me information about your school and tennis program and on what scholarship opportunities may be available for the fall of 20__. Thank you for your time, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Signature (if you are sending a letter)
Type your name if you are sending an e-mail.

Enc.: Player Profile, Player Record, and Tournament Schedule

* Please note that entries in bold would be used if you choose to write and mail a letter and deleted if you choose to send an e-mail.

PLAYER PROFILE FORM

Player Contact Information

First Name:	Last Name:	Middle Initial:
USTA#:	Date of Birth:	
USTA Section:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone #:	E-mail:	
Parents:		

Height: _____ Weight: _____

Plays (check all that apply): Right-handed Left-handed Two-handed backhand/forehand

Style of play: All-court Baseline Serve-and-volley

Private coach: _____ Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Academic Information

High School Graduation Date: _____

GPA: _____ SAT: _____ ACT: _____

Name of high school: _____

Tennis academy: _____

Are you attending high school online? YES NO

Have you registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center? YES NO

(Note: you should register after your junior year in high school)

Proposed college major: _____

Do you need a scholarship or financial aid? YES NO

Current Rankings

Current Standings National _____ Sectional _____ Age Division _____

Year _____ National _____ Sectional _____ Age Division _____

Year _____ National _____ Sectional _____ Age Division _____

Current ITF Combined Ranking _____

High School Tennis

HS tennis coach: _____ Phone #: _____

Position on team: _____ Current W/L record: _____

Other Interests/Activities

Part III

RECREATIONAL TENNIS

Chapter 10

Tennis On Campus—Redefining Collegiate Recreational Tennis

Welcome to the rapidly expanding world of collegiate recreational tennis—Tennis On Campus! Here young men and women of all playing levels can find their niche. Previously under the tennis radar, recreational tennis opportunities now abound on college campuses. Whether you’re new to the game, just play socially with friends, have played competitive tournaments, or play on your high school tennis team, there is an opportunity for you. Chapter 10 explores the Tennis On Campus program and gives you the tools for selecting a college that meets both your academic and tennis-playing needs.

What Is Tennis On Campus?

Tennis On Campus is a national program developed by the USTA to promote and support the expansion of co-ed recreational team play on college campuses across the country. The program focuses on providing structured play opportunities for the entire campus community through sport club tennis teams and intramural tennis programs. National partnerships have been forged between the United States Tennis Association (USTA), National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA), Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA), and World TeamTennis (WTT) to tap into what is happening on today’s college campuses and to help make college tennis a reality for thousands of college students who may lack the skill or commitment to play on a varsity team.

In addition to recreational on-campus play organized by the school intramural department or a tennis sport club, the USTA provides organized competitive play opportunities—through Tennis On Campus—Leagues & Series, USTA Campus Championship—Section Events, and the pinnacle of recreational campus play, the USTA National Campus Championship held annually each spring. To learn more about the USTA’s Tennis On Campus program and how it can enhance or help start a recreational tennis program at the colleges you are considering attending, go to www.tennisoncampus.com.

The rest of this section describes several components of the Tennis On Campus program. It will make clear that as a participant in recreational tennis at the college you choose, you will have many opportunities for team-based competitive play while building a social network and friendships that will last a lifetime.

Tennis On Campus—Intramural Play

Intramural tennis is generally run by the college’s intramural or recreational sports department and played on the college’s campus. Play options can vary from campus to campus, but generally consist of a fall or spring campus tournament. While this can be rewarding for some, it doesn’t provide the opportunity for consistent play throughout a season or many of the health and social benefits that playing regularly on a team does. Fortunately, this is changing—more and more campuses are now adding co-ed team tennis programs to their schedules. This slight change has generated a huge amount of support from campus players and has steadily increased the importance of and need for quality tennis facilities on campuses nationwide.

Tennis On Campus—Sport Clubs

Tennis sport clubs are the really big news on campus today! Sport clubs are organized by students for students through the school's recreational sports department. Tennis sport clubs offer students a variety of options for frequent organized competitive team play. Co-ed club tennis teams practice together, play against each other, compete together against other schools in intercollegiate competition, and socialize together. Often students who have played intramural tennis form tennis sport clubs to gain a richer more competitive and frequent playing experience. The beauty of club tennis teams is that club members create the program that is right for them. Because sport clubs are a recognized part of a college's recreational sports department, club tennis teams are typically insured by the school when they represent the school in intercollegiate competition.

Student leadership and involvement are key elements to the success of sport clubs. As such, a tennis sport club offers much more than just the opportunity to play tennis. It serves as an important learning experience for the members who engage in fund-raising, public relations, organization, budgeting, community service, and scheduling as they form, develop, govern, and administer the club's activities. For more information on sport clubs, go to www.tennisoncampus.com and click on Overview. Also click on College Club Tennis Teams for profiles of sport clubs throughout the country.

Tennis On Campus—Leagues & Series

Tennis On Campus—Leagues & Series were both designed to achieve the same goal: to increase play opportunities for college sport club tennis teams throughout the academic year. However, leagues and series accomplish this goal in different ways. Tennis On Campus Leagues focus on dual/tri/quad match competition between schools. The formats for these matches vary, but the emphasis of the league is on more frequent, localized school-to-school competitions. Tennis On Campus Series focus on large tournaments that bring many teams together for a weekend of competition and camaraderie, usually at least once a month. Neither are exclusionary—leagues still host tournaments and series still host dual/tri/quad matches—but their different emphases define them. For more information, go to www.tennisoncampus.com and click on Overview. Also click on Leagues and Series.

USTA Campus Championship—Section Events

Each of the USTA's 17 sections offers a USTA Campus Championship—Section Event in their respective region of the country. Designed to provide a competitive play opportunity "closer to home," these high-quality events help pull teams together for a fun-filled weekend of co-ed team play, social networking, and leadership development. The 2008-2009 USTA Campus Championship—Section Events hosted a total of 2,481 players on 315 teams from 205 different colleges and universities from across the country! Additionally, in 2009, 41 of the 64 teams competing in the USTA National Campus Championship received automatic bids by competing in their respective USTA Campus Championship—Section Event. Like the USTA National Campus Championship, the USTA Campus Championship—Section Events feature the popular World TeamTennis format. For more information, go to www.tennisoncampus.com and click on Overview. Also click on Events.

USTA National Campus Championship

The USTA National Campus Championship is the pinnacle of the Tennis On Campus program. Hosted in partnership by the USTA, National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA), World TeamTennis (WTT), and Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA), in 2009 this venue featured 64 college and university co-ed teams competing for bragging rights and the illustrious title of National Champion. Held annually each spring, sport club tennis teams can qualify for a bid to the USTA National Campus Championship through participation in their USTA Campus Championship—Section Event or by applying for an at-large/first-come, first-served bid. The event is also a part of the NIRSA National Campus Championship Series (NCCS), which serves as the national championship for tennis sport clubs in the U.S. For more information, go to www.tennisoncampus.com and click on Overview. Also click on Events.

Bridging the Gap Between Youth and Adult Tennis

In the past, many high school varsity tennis players who did not go on to play varsity tennis in college simply (and unhappily) stopped playing tennis during their college years. Many never got back to it or did so only after many years. Now, Tennis On Campus helps bridge the gap between high school varsity tennis and college graduation for these hundreds of thousands of players by providing organized competitive tennis and a healthy active lifestyle throughout their college years. While providing opportunities for fun and friendship during college, Tennis On Campus keeps tennis skills primed.

During summer breaks and upon graduation, there are a variety of play options available for young adults. USTA League Tennis (www.usta.com; click on Tournaments and Leagues) and World TeamTennis (www.wtt.com) are two of the most popular leagues available nationwide and both offer an opportunity for advancement to a national championship. By contacting respective league coordinators in your immediate area, you may be able to ensure a chance to join a team and play all summer long.

With all of the recreational choices mentioned above, every student can continue to enjoy the health and social benefits of playing tennis while in college. Recreational collegiate tennis will keep you playing the sport you love during your college years and have you ready to continue the sport for a lifetime when you graduate.

Is Tennis On Campus Right for You?

There are many faces of the Tennis On Campus player, but all share a lot of the same traits—the desire to play competitive matches, to be part of a team, to remain active, to have fun, and to connect socially with other students who have similar interests. Oftentimes students arrive on campus to find that they may fall short of the talent or dedication needed to play on the varsity squad. For others, the academic challenges that college presents make the decision to play recreational tennis a more preferred choice. No matter what your situation, the courts and players are out there waiting for you. Listen to what some Tennis On Campus players have to say about their choice.

In my opinion, Tennis On Campus did more to introduce me to a diverse group of people than any other activity during my four years... Most importantly, I was able to continue doing something I love with people who shared that love. Tennis is the sport for a lifetime, and thanks to club level athletics, it need not take a break during college. —Andrew DeSilva, Los Angeles, CA

I knew I wanted to go to a Big Ten school, but I also knew that the last thing I wanted was the commitment of a Big Ten varsity tennis program. Lucky for me, participating in Tennis On Campus was a great option for someone who didn't want the commitment of varsity or wasn't quite good enough for it, yet wanted to maintain their game by playing a few times a week.

—Amy Erskine, Birmingham, MI

After playing tennis competitively for years, I had no plans to play and felt a bit lost. Then I learned about the Tennis On Campus program and began meeting some really great people... I can honestly say that the people I've met through Tennis On Campus have been the most positive, fun, and consistent group I've been part of at college. —Katie Johnstone, Deerfield, IL

The traveling opportunities I've had through the Tennis On Campus program are great fun. I love seeing other schools and playing against their teams.

—Kellie James, Honolulu, HI

The transition from being an undergraduate Division I varsity athlete to Tennis On Campus enabled me to keep playing at a competitive level even with my demanding grad school schedule.

—Jen Wong, Buffalo, NY

How to Start a Tennis Sport Club

If you are considering a college or university that doesn't currently have a tennis sport club, you can help to get one started. Many students have done this. The USTA has a guide to help you. For more information and a copy of *Form a Sport Club Tennis Team on Campus: A Guidebook*, please send an e-mail to tennisoncampus@usta.com or visit the resource section on www.tennisoncampus.com

Compiling a List of Prospective Schools

More than 500 colleges that currently have a tennis sport club are registered with the Tennis On Campus program. If you are looking for a school where you can play recreational tennis during your college years, this list of colleges would be a good place to start. To review the list, go to www.tennisoncampus.com/sites.htm. When using this list, if you are unable to find tennis programs on a specific college's Web site, call the college's athletic director or the recreational sports department for guidance. This is a dynamic list in that more schools are constantly being added as the Tennis On Campus program grows.

The College Board's Web site allows you to search its database of colleges by a number of criteria, including geographic region, enrollment, academic program, cost, etc. This database contains comprehensive information about the colleges in it, including admissions criteria, deadlines, fees, etc. However, this database can also be useful in identifying schools that have tennis programs. To find tennis programs on the College Board's Web site, go to www.collegeboard.com and click on For Students. Go to Find a College, click on it and then click on College Search Matchmaker. Click on Sports and Activities and under Sports, go to Tennis (either Men's or Women's) and click on See Results. This will bring up a list of all the colleges that have tennis programs (either Men's or Women's). Currently, the College Board Web site lists 1,630 colleges that have Men's tennis teams and 1,721 colleges that have Women's tennis teams. You can then sort by a number of criteria, including schools arranged alphabetically by state, enrollment size, tuition and fees, etc. Once you have your desired list of colleges, for example, arranged alphabetically by state, you can look at the Profile of any school in the states where you would like to attend college. On the Profile click on Sports to see what tennis programs are offered. Both varsity and recreational programs are listed.

RESOURCE AIDS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

For complete information about the Tennis On Campus program including championships, events, resources and campus marketing materials go to www.tennisoncampus.com.

For a copy of *Form a Sport Club Tennis Team on Campus: A Guidebook*, go to www.tennisoncampus.com.

To review the list of more than 500 colleges that currently have a tennis sport club and are registered with the Tennis On Campus program, go to www.tennisoncampus.com/sites.htm.

To find tennis programs on the College Board's Web site, see above paragraph.

For information on World TeamTennis, go to www.wtt.com.

For information on the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association, go to www.nirsa.org.

Part IV

TENNIS INDUSTRY CAREERS

Chapter 11

Tennis Industry Careers

As a high school student just starting the process of selecting the college you will attend upon graduation—a college that marries your specific academic and social requirements with your strong desire to play tennis—your post-college career may be the furthest thing from your mind. As hard as it may be for you to imagine, those years are fleeting, so it's not too soon to at least become aware of the fact that you can prolong your love affair with tennis long after you leave the college campus through an interesting and rewarding career on- or off-court.

What Are Your Tennis Industry Career Options?

The opportunities for a career in the tennis industry are endless. And they don't all involve winning a Grand Slam! Some of you no doubt will pursue professional careers, but the large majority of you won't. Whether on-court or off-court, tennis industry jobs are available literally all over the world—jobs that are fulfilling, lucrative, and rewarding. Chapter 11 gives you a brief glimpse at some of these jobs.

On-Court Careers

For many, becoming a professional tennis player is the ultimate on-court tennis career. And there's no better place than college to find out if you have the skills and personal attributes to succeed in this demanding arena. Playing at the varsity level in college will give you the opportunity to play regularly in competitive matches, to travel extensively, and to function as a team member, all essential elements of the professional tennis player's career.

Only a small percentage of college graduates will become professional tennis players, but for those who love tennis and want to stay close to the tennis court, there are many other career options.

- Teaching professionals or coaches—You can become a certified teaching professional, tennis director, or high school, college, or private tennis coach. Two organizations provide professional-level teaching certification: the Professional Tennis Registry (go to www.ptrtennis.org) and the United States Professional Tennis Association (go to www.uspta.org).
- Athletic trainers are integral members of the tennis player's support team and necessary for maintaining the player's health and well-being on the tour (see the National Athletic Trainers Association at www.nata.org).
- Sports science consultants and other health professionals are increasingly sought by the pro tours and individual players as well.

- Sports journalists—This career will get you as close to the tennis court as possible without actually being on it. If you love tennis and writing, there are many opportunities to write for a newspaper, magazine, or television.
- Sports photographers—The same opportunities exist for sports photographers as for journalists. What could be cooler than capturing the quintessential shot of the game-winning stroke or the exciting aftermath at a tournament final?
- Managers or owners of tennis entities, for example, as a tennis club or facility manager, tennis camp director, pro shop manager, or builder of tennis courts.

Off-Court Careers

If none of the on-court career options appeals to you, there is probably no better way to be involved in the tennis industry than to work for one of the nation's many tennis organizations. These organizations live and breathe tennis. And they all require bright people who are passionate about tennis to manage and administer their programs and other activities. For example, the United States Tennis Association, the national governing body for the sport of tennis in the United States, is the largest tennis organization in the world, with 17 geographical sections, nearly 730,000 individual and 8,400 organizational members, and thousands of volunteers. Its Community Tennis Division strives to grow the game of tennis at every level with a goal of making the game accessible to everyone; its Professional Tennis Division manages all aspects of the USTA's involvement in the professional sport, including the US Open and 94 Pro Circuit events, among others; its Player Development Division provides American junior, collegiate, and young professional players with opportunities to reach their maximum potential. To accomplish its mission and goals, the USTA needs talented professionals and executives in marketing, sales, sponsorship, public relations, membership, program management, publishing, business operations, finance and accounting, legal, human resources, and many other disciplines. The same applies to the other tennis industry organizations—ITA, WTT, PTR, USPTA, NIRSA, NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA, etc—where thousands of career opportunities are waiting for you.

In addition to a career with one of the tennis organizations, there are many other off-court careers in the tennis industry. Just a few examples include working as a sales representative for manufacturers of tennis racquets, balls, and other equipment as well as tennis clothing, writing books on tennis, and working for companies that specialize in delivering tennis services where you would find opportunities in TV, travel, sales, writing, meeting and event planning, and many other areas.

Why not choose a lifelong career that captivates your interests, affords opportunities to travel and meet interesting people, and offers multiple avenues for growth? For more information on tennis industry careers, go to www.careersintennis.com, click on Types of Jobs, then on Career Center, and then on Current Listings. Other tennis-related job sites can also be found at that Web site by clicking on Additional Resources after you get to Career Center.

Preparing for a Career in the Tennis Industry

The best way to prepare for a career in the tennis industry is the same as you would prepare for any career, that is, by getting a quality education. Although most people working in the industry today have gone through traditional educational programs, several colleges and universities now offer programs specifically geared to prepare you for positions in the tennis industry. These programs usually offer a four-year degree in recreation, business administration, marketing, or another discipline with a concentration in Professional Tennis Management (PTM). PTM programs allow students to combine their interest in tennis with academic preparation. Internships are often an important component of PTM programs. These internships give students valuable hands-on experience working at country clubs, resorts, public tennis facilities, tennis camps, and in tennis organizations. Graduates of these programs receive both their academic degrees and certification as tennis professionals, which together give them a definite advantage as they enter the marketplace. In fact, these schools have a high success rate in placing their graduates. The following schools currently have certified Professional Tennis Management programs:

Ferris State University
Professional Tennis Management
14342 Northland Drive
Big Rapids, MI 49307
Derek Ameel, PTM Director
Telephone: 231-591-2219
cadwelc@ferris.edu

Hampton University
School of Business
Hampton, VA 23668
Telephone: 757-727-5361
www.hamptonu.edu

Methodist University
Professional Tennis Management
5400 Ramsey Street
Fayetteville, NC 28311
Pete Peterson, PTM Director
Telephone: 800-488-7110, ext. 7147
ppetersen@methodist.edu

Tyler Junior College
P.O. Box 9020
Tyler, TX 75711
Kimm Ketelsen, PTM Director
Telephone: 800-687-5680
kket@tjc.edu

APPENDIX

TENNIS ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER RESOURCES TO AID THE PROSPECTIVE COLLEGE TENNIS PLAYER

USTA NATIONAL

United States Tennis Association (USTA)

70 West Red Oak Lane

White Plains, NY 10604

Telephone: (914) 696-7000

Web site: www.usta.com

This is the USTA headquarters address. Please contact this office for all general questions relating to the USTA.

USTA Player Development

10399 Flores Drive

Boca Raton, FL 33428

Telephone: (561) 962-6400

E-mail: playerdevelopment@usta.com

Web site: www.usta.com/playerdevelopment.aspx

Please contact this office for general questions regarding:

- Coaching Education
- College Tennis
- Junior Competition
- Player Services
- Sport Science
- Talent Identification
- Training Centers

For specific questions relating to collegiate varsity tennis, please e-mail collegetennis@usta.com.

Tennis On Campus (USTA Community Tennis Division)

70 West Red Oak Lane

White Plains, NY 10604

Telephone: (914) 696-7000

E-mail: tennisoncampus@usta.com

Web site: www.tennisoncampus.com

Please contact this office for information regarding Tennis On Campus programs, including:

- Intramural Play
- Tennis Sport Clubs
- Leagues and Series
- USTA Campus Championship—Section Events
- USTA National Campus Championship

USTA Serves—Foundation for Academics. Character. Excellence

70 West Red Oak Lane

White Plains, NY 10604

Telephone: (914) 696-7000

Web site: www.usta.com and click on USTA Serves at the bottom of the home page.

USTA SECTIONAL OFFICES

Contact information for the seventeen USTA sectional offices is listed below. Please contact the sectional office in your geographic area (see section map in the Introduction to determine in which section you live).

Your sectional office can provide you with information on the following:

- Sectional and district junior ranking information, endorsement procedures, tournament schedules, and grievance complaints
- USTA Jr. Team Tennis information
- Campus Showdowns and Campus Kids' Day
- Recruiting Showcases and College Forums
- Tennis On Campus
- USTA Campus Championship—Section Events

Caribbean

1611 Fernandez Juncos Avenue
San Juan, PR 00909
(787) 726-8782
www.caribbean.usta.com

Eastern

4 West Red Oak Lane
Suite 300
White Plains, NY 10604
(914) 697-2300
www.eastern.usta.com

Florida

1 Deuce Court
Suite 100
Daytona Beach, FL 32124
(386) 671-8949
www.ustaflorida.com

Hawaii Pacific

1500 South Beretania Street
Suite 300
Honolulu, HI 96826
(808) 955-6696
www.hawaii.usta.com

Intermountain

1201 South Parker Road
Suite 200
Denver, CO 80231
(303) 695-4117
www.intermountain.usta.com

Mid-Atlantic

11410 Isaac Newton Square, North
Suite 270
Reston, VA 20190
(703) 556-6120
www.midatlantic.usta.com

Middle States

1288 Valley Forge Road
Suite 74
P.O. Box 987
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 935-5000
www.middlestates.usta.com

Midwest

1310 E. 96th Street
Suite 100
Indianapolis, IN 46240
(317) 577-5130
www.midwest.usta.com

Missouri Valley

6400 West 95th Street
Suite 102
Overland Park, KS 66212
(913) 322-4800
www.missourivalley.usta.com

New England

110 Turnpike Road
Westborough, MA 01581
(508) 366-3450
www.ustanewengland.com

Northern
1001 W. 98th Street
Suite 101
Bloomington, MN 55431
(952) 887-5001
www.northern.usta.com

Southern California
Los Angeles Tennis Center
P.O. Box 240015
Los Angeles, CA 90024
(310) 208-3838
www.scta.usta.com

Northern California
1350 S. Loop Road
Suite 100
Alameda, CA 94502
(510) 748-7373
www.ustanorcal.com

Southwest
7010 East Acoma Drive
Suite 201
Scottsdale, AZ 85254
(480) 289-2351 or toll free: (888) 918-3647
www.southwest.usta.com

Pacific Northwest
4840 SW Western Avenue
Suite 300
Beaverton, OR 97005
(503) 520-1877
www.pnw.usta.com

Texas
8105 Exchange Drive
Austin, TX 78754
(512) 443-1334
www.texas.usta.com

Southern
5685 Spalding Drive
Norcross, GA 30092
(770) 368-8200
www.southern.usta.com

COLLEGIATE TENNIS ORGANIZATIONS

Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA)

174 Tamarack Circle
Skillman, NJ 08558-2021
Telephone: (609) 497-6920
Fax: (609) 497-9766
Web site: www.itatennis.com
For information regarding:

- Collegiate advocacy
- Collegiate awards and rankings
- College coaches
- Collegiate events
- Campus/community outreach

National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA)

4185 SW Research Way
Corvallis, OR 97333-1067
Telephone: (541) 766-8211
Fax: (541) 766-8284
Web site: www.nirsa.org
For information regarding:

- USTA National Campus Championship
- Sport Club Tennis

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC GOVERNING BODIES

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)

700 W. Washington Street

P.O. Box 6222

Indianapolis, IN 46206-6222

Telephone: (317) 917-6222

Fax: (317) 917-6888

Web site: www.ncaa.org

For information regarding:

- Rules interpretation
- Academic and amateurism eligibility
- NCAA legislation—tennis specific
- Amateur status with regard to NCAA (prize money vs. expense money)
- NCAA *Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete*

National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA)

1200 Grand Blvd.

Kansas City, MO 64106-2304

Telephone: (816) 595-8000

Fax: (816) 595-8200

Web site: www.naia.org

For information regarding:

- Rules interpretation
- Academic and amateurism eligibility
- NAIA legislation—tennis specific
- Amateur status with regard to NAIA (prize money vs. expense money)
- NAIA “Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete”

National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA)

1755 Telstar Dr., Suite 103

Colorado Springs, CO 80920

Telephone: (719) 590-9788

Fax: (719) 590-7324

Web site: www.njcaa.org

For information regarding:

- Rules interpretation
- Academic and amateurism eligibility
- NJCAA legislation—tennis specific
- Amateur status with regard to NJCAA (prize money vs. expense money)
- “Information for a Prospective NJCAA Student-Athlete”

PRINT AND ONLINE DIRECTORIES AND DATABASES OF COLLEGES WITH VARSITY AND RECREATIONAL TENNIS PROGRAMS

The National Directory of College Athletics (print and online editions)

College Directories, Inc.

P.O. Box 450640

Cleveland, OH 44145

Telephone: (440) 835-1172

Toll Free: (800) 426-2232

Fax: (440) 835-8835

Web site: www.collegiatedirectories.com

Both print and online editions are available. Published annually, the directory lists 2,100 junior and senior colleges that compete in intercollegiate athletics.

College Board

The College Board's Web site allows you to search its database of colleges by a number of criteria, including geographic region, enrollment, academic program, cost, etc. This database contains comprehensive information about the colleges in it, including admissions criteria, deadlines, fees, etc. It is also useful in identifying schools that have tennis programs. To find colleges with tennis programs on the College Board's Web site, go to www.collegeboard.com and click on For Students. Go to Find a College, click on it and then click on College Search Matchmaker. Click on Sports and Activities and under Sports, go to Tennis (either Men's or Women's) and click on See Results. This will bring up a list of all the colleges that have tennis programs (either Men's or Women's). Both varsity and recreational programs are listed. In addition to the database, the College Board provides other important information for prospective college students. For complete contact information, see Other Collegiate Tennis Resources.

The Tennis Recruiting Network

The Tennis Recruiting Network, in addition to being an excellent recruiting resource, provides information regarding enrollments, city size, majors offered, and tennis programs for many colleges and universities. With a mission of enabling junior players to play at the college of their choice, The Tennis Recruiting Network has been very successful in connecting players to the right college and tennis program. Go to www.tennisrecruiting.net. In addition to the college database, The Tennis Recruiting Network provides important recruiting and other information for prospective college students. For complete contact information, see Other Collegiate Tennis Resources.

OTHER COLLEGIATE TENNIS RESOURCES

There are many organizations, publications, Web sites, and other resources that can help the prospective college tennis player as he or she begins the all-important college search. Three of these are listed below.

College Board

45 Columbus Avenue
New York, NY 10023-6992
Telephone: (212) 713-8000
Web site: www.collegeboard.com

NCAA Eligibility Center

P.O Box 7136
Indianapolis, IN 46207
Telephone (toll-free customer service line): (877) 262-1492
Fax: (317) 968-5100
Web site: www.eligibilitycenter.org

The Tennis Recruiting Network

1366 Little Willeo Road
Marietta, GA 30068
Telephone: (770) 993-5723
www.tennisrecruiting.net

See Chapter 3 for scholarship/financial aid Web site addresses.

USTA GUIDE TO TENNIS ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

Second Edition

This guide provides high school juniors and seniors who want to play competitive tennis—either varsity or recreational—in college with the information they need to make that all-important college choice. The USTA Guide to Tennis on College Campuses, Second Edition, is a comprehensive resource for locating tennis programs at approximately 2,000 colleges and universities across the country and identifying their requirements for entry. It includes:

- Information on tennis organizations (USTA, ITA, and NIRSA) that can help the prospective collegiate tennis player.
- The eligibility requirements and recruitment rules of the three governing bodies of collegiate athletics (NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA).
- Online and print directories and databases of colleges with varsity and recreational tennis programs.
- Scholarship information and other financial aid opportunities.
- Important points on how to prepare for college visits and the application process.
- Links to Web sites with information on colleges, financial aid, the recruiting process, and the affiliated governing bodies.



United States Tennis Association
70 West Red Oak Lane, White Plains, NY 10604-3602
USTA.com