

Makos' Recruiting Guide

Important websites: (a few, there are more! Surprise 😊)

1. Recruiting service sites
 - A. Berecruited.com
 - B. NCSAsports.com
2. College search sites
 - A. Lookforit.com
3. Additional information
 - A. Collegesswimming.com
 - B. Swimmingworldmagazine.com
 - C. Athleticscholarships.net
4. NCAA Registration (Do right-a-way!!!)
 - A. Ncaaclearinghouse.org

Important deciding factors to help narrow your search:

1. What You WANT to Study!
 - A. Also, it is wise to look at 1-2 other areas that interest you besides your 1st idea.
2. Type of school
 - A. Small/Medium/Large
 - B. Rural/suburban/metro
 - C. D I, D II, D III, NAIA, JC
3. Where you want to fit with 'your new team'
 - A. BIG fish in a SMALL pond or a SMALL fish in a BIG pond or somewhere in between
4. Where?
 - A. In-state, a certain region of the country. Also think of no's, if you don't want really cold weather use that as well.
5. Will you need financial assistance?
 - A. You might get a bigger scholarship at D II or NAIA than D I. D III offers no athletic scholarships
 - B. Some states offer in state cost or reduced out-of-state cost for some bordering states. Example is that Alabama schools offer near in-state cost to Florida residents.

Things to remember:

1. YOU need to run this process, not your parents. You're the swimmer, advocate for YOURSELF. This is huge! Coaches want to see you take initiative in this process—they don't want to hear from your parents.
2. Contacting someone one time and not following up is NOT successful. You can be the aggressor.

3. Start this process early.
4. Ask questions!
5. If you decide during the recruiting process that a school is not for you any longer let the coach know, thank them and wish them well. It never hurts to be polite and it keeps them (and yourself) from wasting time.
6. When a coach (from any level of program) contacts you be open minded and listen, they might be what you need/want and you did not even know.
7. Each Level/Class/Type of school has their own recruiting rules and timelines for recruiting, if you have questions ASK!
8. Use your resources!
 - A. Coach(s)
 - B. Family member(s) that attended that school or a school in the conference
 - C. Older friends or teammates in college
9. Ask about official and un-official visits. How does the school/conference/division handle the visits?

First steps:

1. Do initial search (20+ schools).
2. Check out school websites including coach's profiles and fill out their on-line information forms.
3. Follow up with an email to the coaches (all the coaches for each school).
 - A. The head coaches are not always the main recruiters
 - B. Tell them that you are interested in their program
 - C. Give them your full name, club and LSC, top 4-5 events and times, your club coaches info, tell them that you have filled out their questionnaire and ask what is your next step.
 - D. Wait 3 days if you have had no reply then email again and follow with a call to the coach.
4. Keep a list of + & - and all your interactions with coaches/schools and keep them ranked.
 - A. Ranking could be in groups of 1,2, 5 etc... What you feel comfortable with doing.
 - B. Do this on paper or something you can see; it can get confusing.
 - C. When you get to a point that you are sure you do not want to attend, eliminate schools.
5. Don't forget to do steps 1 & 2 multiple times (numbers do not have to be as big but you might find 1-3 schools each time and they might be better for you).