



## Walter Schroeder Aquatic Center

### Improvement Trajectory & [Power points](#)

950 Big Ten +

900 Big Ten

850 Big Ten - Mid Major - Ivy Help

800 Mid Major - Top D3 NCAA scorer

750 D3 Potential NCAA Helper not Top 3

700 D3 Very Desired

650 and less Really good D3, athletes highly skilled & experienced and all should consider swimming. It is that at this level, athleticism will generally not help with admission or athletic aid

### Dos / Don'ts for calls & communication with college coaches

- Have some questions ready try to use 1 per communication
  - Tell me the story of one of your favorite athletes you've coached
  - What are a couple of things you like most about your institution?
  - Where are you from originally and how'd you get to your current job?
- Don't make the coach do all of the talking - carry the ball some, have some things ready
  - Things you are working on in training recently
  - Upcoming meets
  - Some fun thing you've done away from the pool

### Dos / Don'ts for visits with college coaches

- Never wear apparel from another school - you or parents
- Do not talk about your hope of going to XYZ school when you are at another school
- Be interactive with coaches and team selling self without acting out or behaving poorly
- Athlete carries conversation with coach - parents speak when spoken to, avoid prompting athlete to answer question or fill in a blank.
- Check and maintain a good presence on all social media - coaches and athletes always check
- Handwritten thank you note after



## Walter Schroeder Aquatic Center

**Define your school and then FIND IT - do not wait to see what mail comes and respond to all who request your time**

- **5 filters to help define your kind of school**
  - Price - how much can you spend for your undergrad / how much per year
    - How much debt can you take on (keep it real low)
  - Geography - close to home, northeast or NOT a specific region
  - Size of school - somewhat determined by athleticism, D3 usually smaller than D1, 17 year olds really don't know "I want a big school, I want a small school" travel locally to see what size feels right ie visit Madison or UWM, tour Lawrence and Eau Claire - then you have a basis for comparison
  - Academic limits / areas - Major I think I want but is not offered, look at relative competitiveness ID a couple that are stretch, more that are in the range and a couple the are sure bets
  - Athletic match - does my swimming line up with the school's swimming.

\* there is value in bigger fish smaller pond in academic and athletic areas

If you/your swimmer is in the range where **athletic aid** is a part of the conversation, **athletes should not be negotiating with adults/coaches**. While most of the conversation is between coach and athlete, athletes do not have the skills to ask hard questions. A good tactic is to have the athlete "blame" the parent. "My parents say I cannot commit to an official visit until we / they know what the annual expense will be." Parents have to be involved in understanding and working on the scholarship agreements.

**As soon as you have eliminated a school**, let the coach know - it saves everybody's time. It's not about hurting the coaches feelings or that there's a tiny possibility that maybe. Just be polite and move on.

**Visit a school while on vacation/break** - start early