



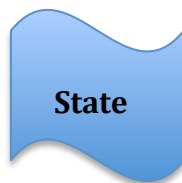
Forming A Contacts List

All high school golf coaches should form a contact list of college coaches. Building a relationship with college coaches helps to form a pipeline and provides more opportunities for potential recruits.

College coaches are able to communicate with high school coaches about a player with no restrictions and perhaps a bit more in depth. In speaking with various college coaches, most of them mention the need for more high school coaches to reach out and form a relationship.

How to Start

Regardless of whether or not you have a potential recruit, it is important to starting creating contacts. Start locally; maybe contact some smaller level schools. After establishing a few local contacts, expand to state wide, and then region wide. If you have a player that is a potential national level recruit, you can then start to form a few national contacts as well. For the most part, college coaches on their own will contact national level recruits and they will probably reach out to you in doing so. Once making contact, it is important to build and maintain relationships. Check in with coaches every few months to inform them about your team and potential players. They should be very open to hearing from you and will do their best to stay in contact.



To find local coaches, you can use coaching databases or just search for them manually. Knowing the schools in your area, just research their golf team and find the coaches information. Using databases, such as Prep Golf America, are great resources but there is no guarantee you will find all the coaches you are looking for.

What College Coaches Expect

College coaches expect honesty and relevant information. You do not want to over-hype a player just to make a coach interested. When a recruit turns out to not be what was expected, college coaches will lose trust. They obviously expect some bias when a high school coach is talking about a player, but facts don't lie. Share your observations of how the kid plays under pressure, their work ethic, their background, etc. College coaches appreciate a better understanding provided by people other than the recruit or their parents.

When to Contact Coaches About a Potential Recruit

When and how often to contact coaches with a potential recruit depends on skill level and age (and the desires of the kid.)

Typically, college coaches will not be overly interested in a freshman. But, it is always a good idea to put young kids on the radar screen. Coaches are most interested in kids late in their sophomore year through the early part of senior years. This is prime recruiting time. Coaches have often filled their roster by the start of a senior's second semester, but anything could happen and they might lose a recruit and be looking for someone to fill the spot.

Freshman: Mention the name of the kid and say you think they have potential.

Sophomore: Time to start calling and giving updates every so often, especially the summer before the junior year.

Junior: Probably the most important recruiting year for college coaches. As a coach, you should use the recruit's junior year to really make moves and finalize some schools.

Senior: Signing year. By late in the Fall semester, coaches and recruits will have made most of their decisions. Late signees need extra work from high school coaches to find open spots.

Extra Information

It is a good idea to obtain as much information as possible from college coaches. See what their roster space is going to be like the next few years, what type of kids they are looking for, their coaching style, recruiting calendar, etc. Write all of this information down and keep it in a log. You will be able to better match recruits with a potential school, and coaches will appreciate that.

