

VANCOUVER COLLEGE

LETTERMAN'S ASSOCIATION

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES WHO ARE BEING RECRUITED

It is an honour to be targeted for recruitment by a university or college athletics program. The fact that you are being perused by one or more intercollegiate teams is a testament to your skill and dedication both in the classroom and on the field of play. In the coming weeks and months, you will be gathering information to make a decision which may rank among the most important of your life.

It is important that throughout the recruiting process you keep in mind the following:

- Conduct yourself in a first class manner in all communications with university coaches and their representatives. Speak politely and with enthusiasm; listen actively and ask questions. Return phone calls and reply to emails promptly. Help coaches by telling them what you are looking for in a university and in an athletic program.
- If you are considering attending a university away from home, attempt to visit the campus to get a better understanding of the culture and environment. When visiting a school on the invitation of the coach of that school, remember that you are a representative of Vancouver College and you should act responsibly. Use such an opportunity well to assess the attributes of the university academically, culturally as well from a sports perspective. The objective should be to determine the best all round fit for you. It would not be appropriate to accept an "official" visit to a campus, if you are not serious in considering attending that school.
- If you are asked to describe your level of interest in a particular school, do so accurately to the best of your ability. Coaches make decisions about where to direct resources based on which players they believe are responding most positively to their advances. While it might be tempting to tell every coach who contacts you that you are seriously considering his school, continuing to correspond with coaches for whom you have little interest in playing benefits no one. Remember also that it is okay to be unsure about your intentions.

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- Do not misrepresent yourself. Some schools request that you fill out a form listing your physical dimensions and testing results; do so accurately. Be honest when asked about your grades. Some coaches might be able to help you gain admittance to their universities, but they need to know if such help may be required.
- Remember that you are in control of the recruitment process. Do not allow yourself to feel pressured into making a decision before you are ready to do so. Your coaches at Vancouver College, friends, and family may try to influence your decision; do not forget to make the decision that is right for you.
- When you make your decision, inform all the coaches who recruited you immediately. Call them – do not wait for them to call you – and tell them of your decision. This is especially important if you have been offered a scholarship or financial aid, as the coaches of the schools you choose not to attend may then be able to offer that money to other eligible student-athletes.
- If you are feeling overwhelmed, remember that there are people who can help. Talk to your parents, coaches, teachers and academic advisor. Do not hesitate to contact Vancouver College grads who are currently studying at the schools you are considering.

You will find that if you treat coaches with respect, you will receive their respect in return, both during and after the recruitment process. If you fail to do so, you risk developing a poor reputation among the coaches of your sport. You should also remember that coaches sometimes move from school to school. It is in your best interests to treat everyone involved in the recruiting process with respect.

There are a huge number of Vancouver College graduates participating in intercollegiate athletics. We value the relationships that we have built with coaches across the country. Your actions will reflect Vancouver College and will either strengthen or weaken these relationships. Coaches will choose to pursue – or not to pursue – future Vancouver College athletes based on the experience they have with your recruitment. With this in mind, please conduct yourself in a manner becoming of a member of the Vancouver College Fighting Irish.