

How your family can help you get a scholarship

Episode 63 Shownotes

Your family can, and will, play a large part in your journey to the US. The whole college recruitment process is difficult if you are doing it alone. Your family will be a massive help.

Parents and family members play a huge role. A lot of the time what your parents and family members do, or don't do, can have a big impact on whether or not you make it to the US, or get offers, or get a scholarship.

The biggest thing that your family can do is support you. I promise you, if your family does not support you, or the decision you have made to pursue opportunities in the US, it will almost always never happen.

- So, their support is the biggest way in which they can help you get a scholarship or an opportunity in the US. Without it, it will be very difficult.
- Just staying on top of you. Giving you the responsibility but always making sure you are on top of things. It can be as simple as that.
- Did you do this? have you done this? where are you at with this? what is happening? Family members, you may seem or sound like a nag but we all know what teenagers are like. Some of you are very responsible. But if you are anything like we were, let's do it all last minute, let's procrastinate, forget about things etc.

With all the athletes and families that we deal with on a daily basis we have a lot of different characters and some family members are a lot more involved than others, we have athletes that take full responsibility for everything and so on. Everyone is a little different and that's fine. You know we have parents and family members that call up every day or two, once a week, every couple of weeks, months and all of that is completely fine. If you want to call every day, we are absolutely happy to speak with you and answer any questions you have.

But there are little things that family members can do that may not seem like too much of a help but certainly are. Let's go through some of these things.

- Helping you gather information for your website. Getting good footage for your games. Filming. Helping you film is important. One of the most important. Parents if you can do that, it's huge.
- We are 9 to 5 here. But I guess we are always available on our mobiles and emails. But if you have questions, or the athlete has questions. Family members can call us during those hours and ask questions. They are in school. It just makes things easier.
- We would rather speak to parents a lot of the time because we know the information is going to be passed on. When athletes call up it's 50/50. It may make it to the parents it may not.
- SAT and ACT registrations. We have step by step registration guides and we can help the athletes through it, but we have a lot of parents that either do the registration for them or at least help them register.
- These may seem like little things, some are bigger than others but they can certainly help the athlete get recruited.

What would you say is one thing that parents do that doesn't help.

Before signing onto the program and after signing onto the program it's not an overnight job.

- Constantly asking if they want to do this. Do you want this? We paid a lot of money or we are going to pay a lot of money. Are you sure you want this? Constantly asking these questions will only create doubt and they will more than likely not go.
- That is the worst thing that family members can do. Are you sure. Are you sure.

What can parents and family members do to help make sure the athlete receives offers.

Year 12 is a big year. Stressful year. A lot of things going on. Parents and family members can take a bit of the pressure off the athlete when it comes to this pathway.

- Continue recording games, matches, tournaments etc
- Take the lead a little more when it comes to calling the office and speaking with us.
- If you can, you update their information in their sites.
- Definitely don't get on their back more because it's getting closer to crunch time and offers and speaking with coaches etc. it will only make it more stressful.
- When offers do start to come through and it is time to speak to coaches and begin school applications, then you need to make sure you are staying on top of things.
- Anything you can do to help will make things easier. Join in on the conversation with coaches, chances are the kids will be nervous when speaking to coaches and may be a little shy, or quiet. Join in on the call if the athlete will let you.
- Helping the athletes gather the documents they require to send through to the school when it comes time to apply. Affidavit of support, high school certificates, grades, passports, you can help with all of this.