What is Princeton looking for in a Student-Athlete?

Recruiting is the life blood of our program and we take extreme pride and enjoyment in getting to know our potential future Tigers and their families. We have identified a few qualities we believe are crucial when searching for student-athletes we want a part of our program. We are looking for prospects who strive for excellence in all areas of their life, who look to improve and challenge themselves on a daily basis and have a passion and commitment to overachievement. In our view these elements are crucial for success in sport and life. From a hockey perspective we look for the following:

1. High-end physiology (speed, fitness base, work rate and athleticism).
2. Solid base of fundamentals (att/def)
3. Intention with/without the ball
4. Influence - Does the athlete impact the outcome of a game? Do they dictate the tempo and tone of the match? Do they exhibit leadership skills?
5. Identity - Can we see the athlete fitting into our system?

Academic Standard – What do you need on your SAT’s?

Fortunately there is no “magic number” for SAT or ACT scores. Admissions looks at the SAT/ACT score, SAT Subject tests and transcript in order to assess the student’s academic potential. The tests are important but what is even more important is the work the student-athlete is doing in the classroom. Admissions wants to see that the student is taking a challenging course load (AP, Honors Courses). We strongly recommend that they take their SAT and SAT II’s as early as possible their Junior year, but definitely prior to July 1. Princeton super scores so they will take the best score from each section. Once the prospect receives scores, we ask that they send them to us so we can give them feedback on whether they need to take them again.

Academic Resources at Princeton – Can you play AND be a student at Princeton?

24% of our campus is made up of student-athletes, so YES, it can be done. All students come to Princeton with a varying degree of preparation and needs and the University sees to it that all of these students are supported. Princeton also recognizes that student-athletes have particular demands on their time that the normal student population does not. Diane McKay, Associate Dean of the College, serves as an academic liaison between Princeton student-athletes and the wider academic community and works to ensure that our student-athletes receive the support they need to be successful. Tara Christie-Kinsey, Associate Dean of the College, is primarily responsible for managing the relationship between academic and athletic affairs. She supports all the athletes and teams as they navigate the challenges involved in pursuing athletics and academics at the highest level. Finally, every student has an individual academic advisor assigned to them as a freshman and sophomore through their residential college; in their junior and senior years, each student works with a departmental advisor, generally one of her own choosing. Students can also seek academic advice from their residential college dean and director of studies throughout their Princeton career. All Princeton students have access to many different forms of academic support including peer tutoring, review sessions, group workshops and individual consultations about study strategies organized through the McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning, one-on-one assistance with papers via the Writing Center and many more. Learn more about these services at ASAP (Academic Success at Princeton):
http://www.princeton.edu/asap.
Frequently Asked Questions—continued

What makes Princeton the #1 academic institution in America?
Princeton focuses on the undergraduate education and very scholarly graduate work. As a result, all the resources funnel into these two areas. The outcome is the following:
1. 6:1 student to professor ratio.
2. Professors teach the courses at Princeton (not teaching assistants). INCREDIBLE professors and visiting speakers.
3. As mentioned above, students have 24/7 access to a variety of free learning resources (McGraw learning center, Writing center, free tutors, daily office hours of professors).
4. There are no classes between the hours of 4:30-6:30, so that the students can pursue co-curricular activities (sports, music, art etc). Our student-athletes NEVER have to make a choice between a class or practice.
5. A student body who is all about being excellent in everything they do!

Financial Aid - Are there scholarships at Princeton?
Princeton offers no athletic or academic scholarships, HOWEVER we have one of the most generous financial aid packages in the country! All money is need-based and is in the form of grants (free money you don’t have to pay back- NO LOANS). Nearly 60% of our team is on “financial aid”. If your players are interested in Princeton, make sure they contact us to see how much aid they would qualify for.

Why do recruits who have full scholarship offers from other institutions choose Pton?
1. First and foremost, the academic environment and reputation is the biggest influencing factor in our favor.
2. Secondly, our players feel that they will receive the coaching and the support necessary to maximize their individual and team potential.
3. Thirdly, our athletes love the fact that every player on this team chooses to be a Princeton Field Hockey player. No scholarships! They play the sport because they love the competition, they love the camaraderie and they love the process of becoming the best athlete and player they can be. The purity of this notion is converted into concrete ideas that find their expression in our training and play. The fact that our athletes elect to play a sport in a demanding and challenging academic environment such as Princeton is one of the main reasons why we love coaching here and our athletes love playing here. We don’t have anything to “hold over their head”. Our athletes show up everyday because they value what this team has to offer. Our staff and players find this environment to be positive, empowering and inspiring.

Recruiting Timeline
Princeton has a much different recruiting timeline than other non-Ivy League programs. By July 1, heading into their senior year, we need the following information: 1. Junior year transcript 2. SAT (writing included) 3. Two SAT II scores
**This information is not only necessary for applying to Princeton but also allows us to give meaningful feedback to the prospect as it relates to potential admission.**

Sophomore Year
a. We ask the athlete to keep us posted on where they are playing and send sophomore year transcripts-we will send the athlete a questionnaire and camp information. If they have any questions they can contact us at any time. We cannot contact them via phone until July 1 of their senior year and cannot correspond with them until September 1 of their Junior Year.

Junior Year
a. Continue to keep us updated on your playing schedule and academics.
b. Attend Junior Day in the fall - top prospects only.
c. Take SAT’s and two SAT Subject Tests by July 1 (or earlier - the sooner we receive test scores, the sooner we can give prospects feedback).
d. Top prospects can get an “early read” from admissions on or after July 1 (“continue to recruit prospect” or “do not continue to recruit prospect”). Prospect must supply us with a completed academic folder (transcript, SAT and 2 SAT subject tests) in order to do the early read.

Senior Year
a. Summer prior to senior year - Complete Princeton Application (Common Application with Princeton Supplement due to us by mid-September).
b. Princeton Field Hockey Staff supports prospect’s application and requests a “likely letter”. The likely letter is indication from admissions that if the prospect continues performing in the classroom they will be admitted officially in late March. All of our supported student-athletes receive a likely letter. The earliest we can supply a likely letter (per Ivy rules) is October 1st of the prospects senior year.