

Mainland Eagles Academy 2015

















What is the Mainland Eagles Academy?

The Mainland Eagles Academy has been established to support male and female players throughout the South Island to pursue their dream of a US College Basketball Scholarship and make it a reality.

The Academy has been established by the Canterbury Regional Basketball Foundation ("CRBF") and is led by Mark Dickel, a former NCAA Division 1 player, and Caleb Harrison a former NCAA and NAIA college basketball coach in the United States. Mark and Caleb were both born and raised in the South Island and have a passion for developing young players and enabling them with the values, disciplines, and skills to achieve their goals.

The benefits of attending a college in the United States go far beyond basketball as receiving a tertiary education while on scholarship can lead to long term success far beyond the athletes playing days.

By providing exposure to our players via the yearly Las Vegas tour, and doing three annual camps combined with monitoring of their day to day basketball and academic development through the year, the players will be ready for the rigours of a college experience. It is our belief via the support the Mainland Eagles Academy can provide each member of the programme, the players will receive the best opportunity to receive a scholarship and be positioned to make the most of the opportunity.

The support provided includes high intensity training, Las Vegas tour, academic support, NCAA eligibility guidance, college selection advice and SAT preparation. It is our belief that basketball provides a unique pathway that other sports cannot provide by providing an education via scholarship. The US College scholarship goal can become a strong motivator in our high school aged athletes to perform at higher levels in the classroom and to grow as true leaders both on and off the basketball court.

A US college scholarship provides for a number of pathways, for example:

- Local and international career opportunities outside of basketball
- A Full time job back in the South Island post degree while playing for the local NBL or WBC team
- An ANBL, European or even an NBA contract for the very elite players

And in the meantime our young players are developing the skills and attributes to be successful leaders generally outside of basketball.

Outline of the 2015 Programme

The Mainland Eagles Academy will be strictly invite only. We understand that the cost of participating in various basketball programmes can be extremely expensive for families and that informed decisions must be made by parents on where to invest.

We will largely focus on players from year 10 to year 13 and we will only invite players to be part of the Academy who we believe have a realistic and serious chance of obtaining a U.S College scholarship if they commit to the programme. Again only players who we believe will obtain

















material benefit from a U.S tour will be invited each year to travel. Players may be added or removed from the Academy and this will largely reflect the effort and commitment they are prepared to make to achieve their dream.

Camp 1:

• When: January 23rd to 27th

• Time: 9am-3pm

• Where: St Bedes College, Christchurch

• Cost: \$250

Camp 2:

• When: April 7th to 10th

• Time: 9am-3pm

• Where: Cashmere High School, Christchurch

• Cost: \$250

Camp 3:

• When: October 5th to October 9th

• Time: 9am-3pm

• Where: Cowles Stadium, Christchurch

• Cost: \$250

United States Tour

When: December 1st to December 22nd

• Where: Las Vegas, Nevada

• Age: 16 Under Team and 18 Under Team

• Cost: \$5,000

Ongoing Guidance, Monitoring and Support

• Receive regular update reports from key coaches, teachers and the players themselves

• Provide guidance on U.S College choices

Teams for the December U.S tour will be selected following the January camp based on a needs based analysis of the individuals and discussions with each individual player's parents. There will be a number of players not touring each year for various reasons who will fully participate in the rest of the programme.

CRBF will appoint a parent committee to oversee a tour fundraising programme each year with the targeted objective of reducing the net cost per player to a maximum of \$3,000. CRBF will support, for example, by organising 2 exhibition games in Christchurch each year where all proceeds will go to the tour and facilitating team fundraising initiatives such as wine sales (through sponsorship channels).

Mainland Eagles Academy Las Vegas Tour

The Mainland Eagles Academy Las Vegas tour will occur annually between December 1st and December 22nd. The purpose of the tour is to provide our players the exposure to be recruited by a

















US College.

With Mark Dickel having played at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, the team will play the best schools in the United States including playing at the famous Tarkanian Invitational Tournament. The players will see first-hand what the College experience is like by attending a University of Nevada Las Vegas practice and game. The players will also have the opportunity to attend an NBA game and train at the Impact Academy in Las Vegas. Through Mark's and Caleb's college connections, college coaches will be invited to attend to watch the Mainland Eagles Academy team play in Las Vegas.

Subject to there being sufficient players that meet the selection criteria, there will be four teams selected yearly for the tour including an 18 and under team and a 16 and under team for both boys and girls. The teams will be coached by the Mainland Eagles Academy coaching staff led by Mark Dickel and Caleb Harrison with the best coaches through the South Island also being involved in the programme.

The Mainland Eagles Academy will provide every player with a recruiting profile that will be sent out to United State Universities that the Mainland Eagles are partners with. Immediately following the tour all players will receive feedback on where they are currently at and what they need to build upon in order to play at the US College level. This feedback will be utilised to develop the player's yearly training programme including their involvement in the three Mainland Eagle camps throughout the year.

A typical Mainland Eagles Academy tour will include:

- 8 organised games against leading U.S high school teams
- 5 games at the Tarkanian Classic
- Training at Impact Basketball Facility and 2 games against Impact teams
- Attend a Los Angeles Lakers NBA game
- Attend 2 UNLV Runnin Rebels trainings and games

Mainland Eagles Academy Camps

The Mainland Eagles Academy camps primary purpose is to prepare players to receive a United States college scholarship. Approximately 40 players from throughout the South Island will be invited to attend the camps.

The expectations and the format of the camp will be very similar to what a player will experience within a US college practice environment. Each player will receive an individualised training programme that will be followed throughout all three Mainland Eagles camps. The players will receive NCAA Eligibility preparation including SAT practice tests. Throughout the camps we will begin to, over time, identify types of US Colleges that will be a good match for each individual athlete. The camps will provide the physical, mental and social preparation to ensure each player is ready for US College.

A typical Mainland Eagles Academy camps will be structured as follows:

Monday: 9a – 3p On-Court

• Tuesday: 9a – 3p On-Court, 3p – 430p NCAA Eligibility Preparation

• Wednesday: 9a – 3p On-Court

















- Thursday: 9a 3p On-Court, 3p 430p NCAA Eligibility Preparation
- Friday, 9a 3p On-Court

Mainland Eagles Academy Guidance, Monitoring and Support

The Mainland Eagles Academy coaching staff will provide players in the programme with guidance on US College choices. The support provided will include academic guidance, SAT test preparation, and recruitment advice. Each player has unique needs and by matching the individual with the appropriate University it will increase the opportunity for success. The US College options include NCAA Division 1, NCAA Division 2, NCAA Division 3, NAIA, Junior College, and Preparatory School.

The Academy will also provide support and monitoring of the development of those players residing outside Christchurch during the year including:

- Receive regular update reports from key coach for players outside Canterbury
- Regular email and facebook communication with players
- Receive regular updates on academic progress through the year

Longer Term Mainland Eagles Academy Programme

The programme is based on the assumption that success is based on a long term process. If players enter our programme at Year 10 we will place them on a four year plan.

There are two broad options for parents when planning the four year calendar, both of which need to then be specifically adjusted to the individual's situation including financial limitations, probability of being selected for a NZ U17 or U19 team and timing of this and level of promotion required.

Option A - Players go on two Vegas tours over the four years including one trip with the 16 and under team and one trip with the 18 and under team. Depending on when the athletes birthday is, will determine whether they are top age for the U17 or U19 New Zealand team and hence which team they target being selected for. The U17 and U19 National teams are pinnacle events as New Zealand moves into the Asia Qualifying zone in 2016.

- Mainland Eagles Vegas Tour –with 16 and Under Team
- Mainland Eagles Vegas Tour –with 18 and Under Team
- Mainland Eagles Camp Three Camps Annually
- New Zealand U17 tour (odd year birthday) or New Zealand U19 tour (even year birthday)

Option B – Players only go on one Vegas tour and our suggestion is that the player to go on the 18 and under trip as this is when they will be in the best position to be recruited and make informed choices.

- Mainland Eagles Vegas Tour –with 18 and Under Team
- Mainland Eagles Camp Three Camps Annually
- New Zealand U17 tour (odd year birthday) or New Zealand U19 tour (even year birthday)

















Further Information and Contacts

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