

Parents,

I'd love to say that the below information is my original work but it is not. I found this posted on a website for youth lacrosse in Massachusetts. The lead-in was written by an individual named Bill Troy.

Because of the expansive growth of lacrosse and this exciting "new" opportunity in the St Louis area, I have been asked by a few parents over the years about the potential and/or probability of their son playing in college – one child was 4 years old and their parents wanted to sign a "long-term contract" for personal lessons with me...

Is receiving a scholarship or financial offset to play collegiate lacrosse, even for those coming out of a non-traditional "lacrosse hotbed" such as the St. Louis area, a possibility? Absolutely – the numbers speak for themselves. Is it very difficult and are the odds of an athletic scholarship low? Yes – again, the numbers speak for themselves.

I am not fullsih enough to believe that just because something is in print that it is always 100% factual. However, I found these articles to be thought-provoking and worthy of sharing with you.

Coach Mac

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On 4/12/2008, as posted by Mr. Troy:  
(<http://ablax.org/Default.asp?snid=70926859&org=ablax.org#161936>)

"Many of us get caught up in the chase for visibility for our children - in hopes of eventual college scholarships. I teach hockey players every Fall at UNH who are playing Junior A hockey with the Manchester Junior Monarchs, in the hope of landing a D1 or D2 scholarship (I had 3 this past Fall). These men are frequently 2 years out of high school before starting college, with many left on the outside looking in.

The enclosed March 2008 NY times articles are particularly illustrative for obtaining scholarships in the 'minor sports', such as Lax.

The key points: most athletic scholarships are smaller than academic, and are shared across many players. Some amount to little more than lab fees for a semester. Few families even recover the costs of high school extra summer camps and club teams. Time is better spent getting higher grades, as there is much more academic scholarship money.

Play because you love it.

See for yourself:"

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/10/sports/10scholarships.html>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/11/sports/11coaches.html>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/12/sports/12lifestyles.html>