RECRUITMENT WAR

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College sports have become a great source of pride for universities in the country. When the honor and glory of school is at stake, tertiary schools put so much time, passion and effort in bringing and developing the best sports program and come up with players and team who can steer their universities in podium finish.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Universities Athletic Association of the Philippines are among the top producers of quality games across different sports. The most popular sports in the Philippines, Basketball, is rocking the collegiate tournament while filling in bigger stadiums like MOA Arena and Araneta Coliseum with mammoth and record setting crowd be it games from the NCAA or UAAP.

Just recently, college volleyball also gained an unprecedented status and quickly became a crowd drawer, with arch rivals Ateneo and La Salle setting 21000 strong fans witnessing their anticipated clash.

The reason behind this warm reception from the fans is not just because they banner the names of their schools but because teams have talented players who can give satisfaction to Filipinos whose love for Sports is deeply rooted in their veins. Universities especially in Manila have produced top calibre athletes who can contend with the world’s bests.

They did not just clone these top and rising stars in the sporting world but the secret to their success in these tournaments is recruitment.

Coaches from different college institutions troop to Palarong Pambansa every year to scout for the next candidates that could fit their line up and system. They travel even to the far flung venues just to witness the potentials and skills of high school players who can deliver for their schools. Bernadette Pons, Terence Romeo and Cherry Rondina are some of the top names who came from brilliant recruitment.
Point is, college tournaments also rely heavily on high school players, talking about the future of schools. These high school players will soon don the jersey and parade the name of their chosen universities. For college coaches, the challenge lies on recruitment wars. But for us high school teachers, our challenge is honing our young gunners to help them achieve their dreams of playing in a more competitive level like the NCAA or UAAP.

In our school, the challenge is how to provide our young talents an effective and intensive training which will harness their physical, mental and psychological aspect. It is our duty to provide them the best facilities, equipment and ample playing time to groom them to be battle-tested individuals who can compete on a high level of competition. They should not be confined in the four corners of our academe but let them be exposed in different leagues outside the school. Let them gain valuable experience in going up against better teams so they can learn how to rise in adversity and help them have necessary adjustments on their skills.

Now that recruitment wars are rampant in college sports, our main duty is to transform our young gunners to be on that pool of players that university coaches are picking in. The students with great potential are ready for harnessing, the next step is upon us.

Reference:

www.ncaa.org