



2026-27
MEN'S GOLF
COACHES MANUAL

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IMPORTANT DATES

2026-27 MEN'S GOLF SPORT CALENDAR

AUGUST 10	START – Practices, Scrimmages & Exhibitions
AUGUST 21	START – Ratings Release <i>Aug. 21, Oct. 16, Oct. 30, Mar. 26, Apr. 9, Apr. 23, May 6</i>
AUGUST 24	START – Player of the Week <i>Aug. 24, Sept. 9, Sept. 16, Sept. 23, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, Oct. 14, Oct. 21, Mar. 3, Mar. 10, Mar. 17, Mar. 24, Mar. 31, Apr. 7, Apr. 14,</i>
AUGUST 24	START – Competitions
NOVEMBER 20	DEADLINE – Sport Motion Submissions
DECEMBER 8-10	Golf Coaches Association of America Convention – Las Vegas, NV
APRIL 7	DEADLINE – Undeclare from Postseason
APRIL 15	DEADLINE – Nominations for NAIA Scholar-Athletes
APRIL 15	DEADLINE – Individual Champions of Character Nominations
MAY 5	DEADLINE – Completion of Conference/CAC/Group Qualifying Tournaments
MAY 7	RELEASE – National Championship Qualifiers Announced <i>3:00pm CT</i>
MAY 10	RELEASE – National Championship Pairings (Rounds 1 & 2) Announced <i>10:00am CT</i>
MAY 10	DEADLINE - Submission of Postseason Rosters in NAIA Connect
MAY 18-21	75TH ANNUAL NAIA Men's Golf National Championship Gates Four Golf & Country Club – Fayetteville, NC
MAY 27	RELEASE – NAIA Men's Golf All-Americans Announced
JUNE 30	DEADLINE – Nominations for NAIA Scholar Teams
JULY 15	DEADLINE – Nominations for Hall of Fame Due

FIVE-YEAR CHAMPIONSHIP CALENDAR

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Conference Tournament Deadline	May 5	May 10	May 9	May 1	April 30
National Championship	May 18-21	May 23-26	May 22-25	May 14-17	May 13-16

National Championship Website – [CLICK HERE](#)

PLAYING RULES AND REGULATIONS

PLAYING RULES

Official United State Golf Association ([USGA](#)) rules govern NAIA regular and postseason play, supplemented by any local rules and the following NAIA modifications:

1. Special equipment may be transported to players by a designated coach during a competitive round such as umbrella, cap, rain gear, etc., but no golf clubs may be added or exchanged other than allowed under USGA rules.
2. All players must carry their own bag during competitive rounds. Use of a power cart is strictly prohibited unless a player and/or coach has a documented handicap that falls under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1998. If needed, an individual is allowed a power cart to participate in the NAIA National Championship in an equal manner as all others.
3. The NAIA Men's Golf Tournament Committee is comprised of the officers of the NAIA-MGCA and/or a total of three coaches whose teams did not qualify for nationals, the local tournament director and the host PGA professional. It shall be the sole responsibility of the PGA professional to make all decisions relative to USGA rules and the suspension of play due to weather conditions unless USGA rules officials are specifically assigned and designated for this purpose.
4. The Tournament Committee shall assist in regulating the speed of play, monitor player and coach conduct and assist the PGA professional in the administration of the rules.
5. The Tournament Committee serves as an "appeals committee" for any participating institution. Appeals of any decision must be made in writing by the golf coach or his/her designated representative.
6. The National Championship must be officiated by a rules committee, comprised of a head rules official and at least three additional rules officials, all of whom must be qualified rules officials with their respective state golf associations. The Rules Committee will be separate and distinct from the Tournament Committee.
7. The National Championship has adopted the following Advice Rule. Each team will have two persons who may give advice to participants. They must be a non-playing individual. If the individuals are someone other than the head coach, an "Advice Form" must be signed and returned to the tournament director prior to the team teeing off. Penalty per USGA rules. Players returning to the golf course to follow team members must not communicate with team members at any time during the round or a violation of the advice rule will occur.
8. A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. However, if, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional functions are actually used.
9. The NAIA-MGCA has established a Hard Card to be used at every NAIA Men's Golf National Championship. The Hard Card will improve consistency in tournament rules from year-to-year and will allow the rules committee at each championship to know what rules the NAIA coaches have approved and how to enforce them. NAIA coaches have the option of using this hard card at their regular-season and Conference/CAC/Group tournament, thus allowing their athletes to play under the same conditions as the National Championship.
10. The official practice round is the Monday before the championship begins. Teams are not permitted additional practice rounds or access to the championship course from the conference tournament deadline through the start of the official practice round.
11. Yardage measurement books may be made available for sale to participants prior to the practice round. Pin placement sheets will be distributed each day by the official starter to indicate the quadrant of the green the pin is to be located, and distance (in yards) placement from the green's front edge and nearest edge. The green should be indicated as a round circle with depths shown in yards.
12. The host course must be equipped with a method of calling the participants off the course in case of bad weather. This should be outlined at the designated rules meeting prior to the championship.
13. The Tournament Committee shall be responsible for determining the resumption or termination of a round of play; including any decision to resume play from the point of suspension on the same day or another day, and/or the complete cancellation of a round of play. A decision to resume play from the point of stoppage on the same day, or another day which could result in the alteration of starting times is also the decision of the Tournament Committee. The committee has the prerogative to shorten the length of the event if conditions require. The final round will not extend beyond the established ending date.
14. The use of alcohol, tobacco and/or illegal drugs by the participants, coaches and officials is strictly prohibited on the golf course. The NAIA-MGCA and the NAC approved the following policy as it relates to a participant violating the aforementioned:

"Violators will be subject to an official warning, followed by assessment of a two stroke penalty for a second offense and disqualification from the tournament for the third offense. All violations will also be reviewed by the NAIA Conducts and Ethics Committee for additional sanctions."

OFFICIAL BALL

No official ball is designated for NAIA postseason play. Competitors may be required to report the brand and type of ball they are using prior to the start of every postseason competitive round.

INDIVIDUALS IN TOURNAMENTS

Should an institution choose to enter an individual(s) in a regular-season tournament, that player will be designated as an individual for the entire tournament. That player's score cannot be used towards the team score for any round.

TEAM LIMITS

The number of players a team may use in a tournament is limited to 6, using the four lowest scores. Additional players may be entered but will follow the guidelines listed in Eligibility Requirements – Bylaws, Article V, Section C.

APPROVED EVENT FORMATS

Approved regular season formats for competitions are "play 6, count 4 scores", "play 5, count 4 scores", and match play.

CONDUCT IN COMPETITION

EJECTIONS AND SUSPENSIONS

An ejection is an action enforced in conjunction with competition by a game official consistent with the playing rules in that sport. A suspension is required by NAIA bylaws (Article 6, Section B, Item 7) as an additional consequence related to ejections in conjunction with competition.

Ejections are not subject to appeal. Some sport rules allow protests through an official process outlined in each sport rule book.

Suspensions may be appealed starting with the Conference/CAC. An institution must submit an appeal to their conference within 72 hours of the completion of contest. The Conference will submit a recommendation to the National Office within 72 hours of receiving the appeal from the institution. The Conduct and Ethics Committee is responsible for all appeals related to suspensions due to ejections of a coach and/or student-athlete.

Once an appeal with appropriate signatures has been submitted to the Conference, the student-athlete/coach may continue to participate through the appeal process. If the appeal is not approved, then the student-athlete/coach must sit out of the next scheduled contest(s).

The NAIA game official ejecting a student-athlete or coach and the athletic director of the ejected student-athlete or coach must complete ejection reports. The form must be submitted to the NAIA within 48 hours after the completion of the contest.

[Ejection Report Form](#)

In the NAIA, any ejection in any sport carries a mandatory suspension of at least one game (see NAIA Bylaws Article VI, Section B, Item 7). In addition, the specific sport itself may also carry a suspension, as determined by rules of competition for that sport. If both an NAIA and sport rule suspension apply, the two suspensions run concurrently.

Golf Sport Rule – A suspended person must follow the same penalties as those in an ejection (removed from sight and sound of contest). Additionally, a suspended person cannot:

- Be dressed in game uniform
- Communicate with any team personnel
- Take part in any activities at the site of competition
- Be on the course once activities have started.

NAIA NAC Policy Article IV – Conduct in Competition – A player or coach serving a suspension(s) shall be restricted to the designated spectator areas and prohibited from any communication or contact, direct or indirect, with the team, coaches, and/or game officials from the start of game to its completion, including overtime periods. While the suspended coach or player is allowed on the field and in the bench area during pregame activities, the suspended player may not be dressed in their game uniform, and they may not take part in any warm-up activities.

**A one-game suspension is required by sports rule (not appealable through NAIA process); An additional one-game suspension is only required by NAIA bylaw and therefore is appealable through NAIA process.*



POSTSEASON COMPETITION

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

OFFICIAL PARTY / ROSTER

Official Party:

The official party for each team participating in postseason play is 9 players allowed in uniform and up to 2 support staff. Each team will receive a maximum number of 11 credentials, 9 student-athlete credentials and 2 official party credentials.

Official Postseason Roster forms will now be filled out via [NAIA Connect](#) and sent to the NAIA National Office. If you do not have a login account, please contact naiacconnectsupport@naia.org. Once you login, please follow these [instructions](#).

Postseason Rosters (and ejection disclosures) will be processed electronically and the administrator completing the roster will sign electronically. Postseason rosters no longer need to be sent to the NAIA National Office.

If you have trouble with the online roster form, please contact [Steve Wilson](#), NAIA Athletics Communications Department. For any other general questions related to the Official Postseason Rosters, please contact [Rick Daum](#), NAIA Championship Sport Manager.

The list of up to **9** eligible players (Official Postseason Roster and Entry Form is on NAIA Connect) must be submitted at the time of the institution's selection into NAIA postseason play. Only players on the Official Postseason Roster may be in uniform. If a team is discovered using a player not on the Official Postseason Roster at any time during the postseason tournament, that team will be immediately disqualified from further postseason play that year. From the point of first infraction by a team using a player not on the Official Postseason Roster, all subsequent contests shall be forfeited by the offending team.

A copy of this roster form must also be hand-carried to the site of the Conference/Continental Athletic Conference (CAC) (formerly Association of Independent Institutions/Group qualifying tournament and National Championship, and be presented to the Tournament Committee prior to that institution's participation in the tournament.

The deadline for certifying the official roster of **9** players is 30 minutes prior to the first tee time of any Conference tournament, or at the coaches meeting of the National Championship.

Once the National Championship begins, no player may play who is not on the Official Postseason Roster.

Medical Personnel:

Each team is allowed up to two athletic training/medical personnel on the team sideline. One of which must be an ATC, MD, or DO. A licensed health care provider's license information/number must be submitted in the application in order to receive any medical/athletic training credentials for your team. Applications will close 72 hours before the event starts. Medical personnel credentials can be picked up during team check-in/registration only with a photo ID.

Please [apply here](#) for medical personnel credential.

Sports Information / Media Personnel:

All SIDs/Media personnel will need to apply for a credential for the final site. Applications will close 72 hours before the event starts. Media Credentials can be picked up at the box office only with a photo ID. Media credentials will NOT be included in the team packets at coaches pick up.

Please [apply here](#) for a Final Site Media Credential.

Administrator Personnel:

All Presidents and Athletic Directors from qualifying teams will each receive two credentials. These credentials can be picked up at the box office. All other administrators will receive free admission with their NAIA membership card when presented at the box office.



ROSTERS CHANGES/SUBSTITUTIONS

A player may be replaced on the official roster between the Conference/CAC/Group Tournament and the NAIA Men's Golf National Championship by any eligible player whose name is included on the NAIA Official Eligibility Form for the current season. Again, the coach will need to hand-carry a copy of the eligibility form to each tournament if a roster change is necessary.

For Unaffiliated Group Qualifying Tournament plans that call for preliminary competition between conference teams, roster changes cannot be made once this preliminary competition begins. Unaffiliated group tournaments will follow the same roster change policies used for Conference/CAC Tournaments.

Each institution must designate the five (5) players that will comprise their team prior to the beginning of the first round of the National Championship (regardless of the team's tee times).

Prior to any Affiliated Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group Tournament or NAIA National Championship round, a team may substitute a player for any member of the team, provided that:

- 1) The Tournament Committee or Rules Committee is notified of the substitution at least 30 minutes prior to that team member's starting time.
- 2) The player is an eligible member of the institution's team and is listed on the team's Official Postseason Roster in NAIA Connect.

When a team has substituted a player, the substitution becomes final 30 minutes prior to that team member's starting time and no further changes may be made by the team for that round. However, prior to the 30-minute mark, the team may withdraw the substitution notifying the Tournament or Rules Committee and may substitute for another player as provided above.

The team member that was substituted for may be used as a substitute in a subsequent round if the team wished to substitute another player.

EXPENSES

Each participating team shall be responsible for its own expenses to, during and from all postseason events.

COACHES RESPONSIBILITY

The coach or designated person for each participating team must be in attendance and is responsible for their team at all times while at the site of the National Championship. This person shall accept the responsibility for the conduct of his student-athletes at the National Championship site, during the championship and at all activities connected with the team's participation. In case of property damage, the offending institution shall be held financially responsible.

INSURANCE

Each participating team shall provide its own medical, hospitalization, travel and accident insurance for all official party members.

ALLOWABLE CART

There will be only one cart per team allowed for postseason play (includes conference championships). Only two designated advice givers are allowed to ride in the cart during the postseason.

First Offense – A verbal warning.

Second Offense – The loss of one advice giver for that round.

UNIFORMS

Approved NAIA uniform rules modifications to allow sponsor logos/patches during competition in Men's Golf.

- Limit one sponsor logo or patch on a uniform
- The logos may not exceed a standard size of 2.25 inches square
- Sponsors of alcohol, tobacco, or any other legalized drugs (as example Oregon marijuana is legal) are not permitted
- Sponsors whose sole or primary business function is sports gambling (ex. FanDuel, DraftKings, etc...)
- Sponsor logos must be in same location on each set of uniforms (example: if home whites patch is on neckline all home whites must be same, away jerseys could be in different permissible location)

Golf Specific - No specific location restrictions. The primary location should be the front shoulder panel opposite the manufacturer's logo between the apex of the neckline and the shoulder seam. A secondary permissible location is centered on



the bottom right sleeve (as worn) or centered bottom opposite sleeve of the manufacturer's logo. Alternative possible location if neither of the above preferred locations are available is the back of the jersey at the apex/center of the neckline as close to the neckline as possible.

AFFILIATED CONFERENCE/CAC/GROUP TOURNAMENTS

Each Conference/CAC/Group with a minimum of six institutions playing Men's Golf are entitled to qualify its representative to the NAIA Men's Golf National Championship either through regular-season conference play or a postseason qualifying tournament.

Any Conference or Unaffiliated Group with 12 or more institutions competing in Men's Golf shall have the opportunity to qualify two teams to the National Championship. To earn the second qualifier the team must be ranked in the Top 25 of the final NAIA Men's Golf Coaches Rating to receive an automatic berth into the National Championship. Each Conference/CAC/ Group will determine the format and qualification procedures for the Conference/CAC/Group Championships.

Affiliated Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group tournament plans for all Spring sports must be submitted to the National Office no later than **February 1** of each year.

Conferences/CAC will receive one automatic berth per six teams listed in the qualification plan, and two berths per twelve teams participating in post-season. If a conference/CAC falls below 12 teams completing the qualifying tournament with four golfers, only one-berth will be awarded.

DATES AND SITES

The dates and sites of the Conference/CAC/Group qualifying tournaments shall be determined by their Executive Committees. The deadline for completion of all NAIA Men's Golf Conference/CAC/Group qualifying tournaments is **Wednesday, May 5, 2027**.

ADMINISTRATION

The Conference/CAC/Group tournaments are planned and administered by the Conference/CAC/Group Golf Committees under the leadership of their golf chair and subject to approval of all standards and conditions as prescribed by the Conference/CAC/Group Executive Committee or Commissioner.

It is recommended that the Commissioner or a representative of the Conference/CAC/ Group Executive Committee be present at all Conference/CAC/Group tournament rounds as the tournament supervisor.

Each Conference/CAC/Group is responsible for:

1. Administration and interpretation of the postseason plan, including all qualifications and selection procedures.
2. Certification of approved sites
3. Announcement of teams, seeding, pairings, tee times, and sites immediately at the established time for team selection.
4. Assignment of a tournament supervisor to each round and provision of complete instructions for round administration.
5. Assignment of a certified athletic trainer.
6. Establishing a physician and ambulance service on-site or immediately on call throughout the tournament.
7. Approving the selection and assignment of all tournament officials
8. Reporting results of all rounds to the NAIA National Office
9. Ordering the championship awards
10. Establishing appeal policies
11. Supervising the administration of the round(s) including tee-off protocol, cheerleader activity, crowd control, supervision of the officials, and the post-game awards ceremony.

WEATHER CONTINGENCY PLAN

Every Conference/CAC/Group Executive Committee must submit a weather contingency plan along with their Conference Tournament Plans. Conference/CAC/Group tournament deadlines will not be extended for weather delays.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

DATES AND SITES

The NAIA Men's Golf National Championship will be played at Gates Four Golf & Country Club on the dates of **May 18-21, 2027**

Teams and individual qualifiers may not play the championship course from the national qualification deadline until the official practice rounds begin at the National Championship.

ADMINISTRATION

The NAIA Men's Golf National Championship is under the direct control and supervision of the NAIA Men's Golf Tournament Committee appointed by the NAIA. The Tournament Committee is responsible for carrying out the policies approved by the NAIA National Administrative Council (NAC) and Men's Golf Executive Committee, such as seeding and pairing of participating teams, the management of National Championship rounds, and the general welfare of the participating teams and coaches.

Other responsibilities include conducting a pre-tournament coaches' meeting, evaluating rules officials, and coordinating both pre- and post-tournament ceremonies. Should a member of the Tournament Committee have a team qualify for the National Championship, the NAIA Men's Golf Championship Sport Manager will appoint a replacement on the Tournament Committee.

All National Champions should be determined in competition, with National Championships played to conclusion. Playability should be determined by the on-site Tournament Committee in consultation with the NAIA National Office, making every effort to conclude on schedule. The Tournament Committee should make every possible effort to finish in the timeliest fashion possible.

QUALIFICATION OF TEAMS & INDIVIDUALS

Automatic Qualifiers - Qualification for the NAIA Men's Golf National Championships shall take place through various Conference/CAC/Group tournaments by the following methods:

1. The championship team from each Conference/CAC/Group tournament shall qualify a minimum of four and a maximum of five individuals to represent the institution in the National Championship. An institution may enter four individuals as a team entry and **MUST** count each individual's score.
2. The individual medalist from a Conference/CAC/Group tournament shall also qualify for the National Championship if his institution does not win the team conference championship (or receive an at-large berth). For an individual medalist to earn qualification via this method, a minimum of six teams must finish the qualifying event with at least four players. An individual may not play as a medalist entry in the National Championship if his institution has a team berth. Should the team champion or medalist from a Conference/Group tournament declare not to participate in the National Championship, the runner-up team and/or medalist **WILL NOT** automatically qualify for the National Championship as the Conference/CAC/Group representative.
3. All ties for team and individual championships must be broken in Conference/CAC/Group tournaments by an approved playoff or manner designated by the Conference/CAC/Group Tournament Committee. Only one team champion and only one medalist may represent a Conference/CAC/Group in the National Championship as automatic qualifiers.
4. In the event a Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group does not conduct a tournament to determine its champions, a berth will be awarded to the top rated team in the Top 25 poll used for selection.
5. If a Conference/CAC/Group drops below the threshold of six sponsored teams, leaving five teams remaining, the Conference/CAC/Group must contest its postseason qualifying event as scheduled. The winning team will still receive an automatic bid to the National Championship. However, the individual medalist does not qualify if they represent a different team other than the team qualifier if the Conference/CAC/Group dropped below six teams.
6. There are no limits on the number of at-large berths a Conference/CAC/Group may receive.
7. All-Tournament Team honorees from the previous National Championship (Top 15 players including ties) may participate in the next year's National Championship if they compete in a Conference/CAC/Group tournament and do not qualify in any other manner (medalist, team champion, at-large, host berth).
8. The host institution, if one exists for the National Championship, shall automatically qualify its five-member team for the championship should it not qualify as the Conference/CAC/Group representative.

Conferences/CAC will receive one automatic berth per six teams listed in the qualification plan, and two berths per twelve teams participating in post-season. If a conference/CAC falls below 12 teams completing the qualifying tournament with four golfers, only one-berth will be awarded.

At-Large Team Berths - At-large berths will be awarded to the highest ranked teams from the final Men's Golf Top 25 rating that have not qualified by winning a Conference/CAC/Group tournament. The highest ranked team in the final Men's Golf Top 25 poll that is not an automatic qualifier will receive the first at-large bid. This procedure will continue until no more five-player teams can be added to the National Championship field.

In the event there is a tie in the final rating for the final at-large spot, the tournament committee will break the tie taking the following into consideration (in the following order until the tie is broken):

1. Head-to-Head (at any point throughout the current season, including postseason).
2. Clippd Adjusted Scoring Average
3. Season Results (including postseason)

At-Large Individual Qualifiers – Individual at-large berths will be awarded in the event that the field is not completely filled after all the conference medalists, conference team champions, at-large team berths, host team berth, and returning all-tournament team members have been designated. Individuals who are rated by Clippd (Top 50 Adjusted Scoring Average) and whose teams do not qualify for the National Championship will also be considered by the NAIA-MGCA Executive Committee.

CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTION APPEALS PROCESS

If there is misapplication of NAIA policy and procedures regarding tournament selection, an institution may appeal to the NAIA National Office.

Criteria for filing an appeal:

1. A written appeal citing the specific NAIA policies and/or procedures that have been misapplied must be submitted to the NAIA National Office within 24 hours from the time the tournament field has been released.
2. Once an appeal has been submitted a response will be provided within 24 hours from receipt of appeal.
3. Appeals must be submitted and signed by the Athletics Director and President of the institution.

NOTE – The NAC Sport Liaison will be on-site at the selection to listen to the discussion of tournament selection. The NAC Liaison will report any concerns to the NAIA National Office immediately following the conclusion of the selection. The oversight committee will review ratings to prevent any ratings process violations or unethical use of the ratings process.

FORMAT

The NAIA Men's Golf National Championship is a four-round, stroke play tournament consisting of a maximum of **156** golfers. Each team competes with five golfers (minimum of four) and the top four scores posted each day are counted toward the team standings.

Playing groups will be made in threesomes throughout the event unless the number of entrants requires differently.

First and second day groupings will be made prior to the arrival of the participants and will be available upon registration. Participants are divided into four tee-off groups. Group one will tee off the number one tee and group two will tee off the number 10 tee the first morning; while group three will tee off the number one tee and group four will tee off the number 10 tee the first afternoon.

On the second day, morning players from day one will start in the afternoon on the opposite tee, and afternoon players from day one will start in the morning on the opposite tee.

Following the second round, the field will be reduced to the top 15 teams (plus ties) and 6 individuals who have not already made the cut with their teams (plus ties).

Pairings and starting tee times shall be established by the Tournament Director in consultation with officers of the NAIA-MGCA. Teams and individuals will be re-grouped for the third and fourth rounds. Individuals on each team are to be re-ordered based on their scores through the second round.

The tee-time format will be consecutive by team beginning with the #5 player on and concluding with the #1 player.

The field will be re-grouped and divided into two groups for the third and fourth rounds. Golfers will be grouped according to the standing of their teams and individual scores. Individuals on each team are to be re-ordered based on their scores through the second round. Individual medalists will be grouped together except when necessary to fill out a threesome.

The NAIA-MGCA has adopted the following procedures for breaking ties for the pairing of teams (and individuals) between rounds:

1. Team or individual that posts the score(s) first will be seeded higher the next day.
2. If the tied teams or individuals posted scores at the same time, then the 5th-man score will break the tie.
3. If a tie still exists, then the tournament director breaks the tie(s) with a coin toss.

TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES

Team Ties - In the case of a tie for the team championship at the conclusion of regulation play, the teams tied for the championship will proceed to a hole designated by the Tournament Committee as the first play-off hole. All five players on each team involved in the play-off will play the hole and count the best four balls. This process will continue until a champion is determined.



For team playoffs involving three or less teams, all teams shall play together (using the 5-4-3-2-1 teeing sequence). For playoffs involving four or more teams; teams will be paired in groups of two and the current tie-breaking guidelines are used to determine teeing/playing order.

Individual Tie - In the case of a tie for the medalist championship at the conclusion of regulation play, the individuals tied for the championship will proceed to a hole designated by the Tournament Committee as the first play-off hole. Play will continue from designated holes until a champion is determined.

In the case of a golfer tied for individual medalist and also competing in a team tie-breaker, that golfer will compete in the team tie-breaker (playoff) until the team championship is decided. Once the team competition is completed, the individual (medalist) playoff will take place and the golfer in question will compete as an individual. The Tournament Committee will designate different holes for the team and individual playoffs. The Tournament Committee will also draft specific playoff procedures before the tournament begins and include them in the coaches' packets.

TEE TIMES

The host, the NAIA Championships Department, and the Tournament Committee jointly determine tee times for all rounds.

OFFICIAL SCORING

Hole-by-hole live paperless scoring is the official scoring method for the National Championship.

OFFICIAL PRACTICE ROUND

The Official Practice Round will occur on the Monday before the Championship begins.

New in 2026-27: Teams will be able to designate 6 players to participate in the official practice round.

The round will be played in the format of two shotgun starts: one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Exact start times can be determined by the host facility based on daylight for their location in May. Teams scheduled for the morning wave in Round 1 on Tuesday will play in the morning shotgun start on Monday. Teams scheduled for the afternoon wave for Round 1 on Tuesday will play in the afternoon shotgun start on Monday. Each wave will have 5 hours to complete their practice round. In the event of inclement weather on Monday, a single shotgun start can be used with all 156 players at the same time.

PARTICIPATION IN FUNCTIONS AT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

All participating teams and individuals competing in a National Championship must attend all functions including, but not limited to – Parade of Champions, coaches meetings and student-athlete experience event. Failure to comply will result in a penalty of a \$1,500 fine to the institution.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

If inclement weather should cause travel delays for any team(s) competing in the National Championship, it will be up to the discretion of the NAIA Championship Sport Manager and the Tournament Committee to make changes to the National Championship tee time schedule to accommodate such delays.

It is the responsibility of the host Medical Director/Athletic Trainer at NAIA Championship events to determine when an event should be suspended and when it is safe to return to play as the result of severe weather. The Athletic Trainer is to notify the NAIA Championship Sport Manager who, in collaboration with the appropriate personnel (i.e. Tournament Committee) will implement the predetermined action plan for both player and spectator safety.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Prior to the National Championship, an information packet will be posted online on the NAIA Coaches Corner page for all potential qualifiers which will include specific instructions regarding transportation, housing, practices, and all responsibilities upon qualification. Please handle these responsibilities as early as possible.

Contacting the National Office – Immediately upon qualifying for the National Championship, Commissioners should email the NAIA National Office Liaison, [Rick Daum](#), their Conference/CAC/Group tournament results to identify the team champion and individual medalist.



Coaches Responsibility - The coach or other designated person for each participating team must be in attendance and is responsible for his/her team at all times while at the site of the championship. This person shall accept the responsibility for the conduct of his/her student-athletes at the championship site, during the championship and at all activities connected with the team's championship participation. In case of property damage, the offending institution shall be held financially responsible.

Programs - It is important for competing institutions to cooperate fully in providing publicity and program materials to the National Championship site by the published deadline.

Check In – Upon arrival at the National Championship, teams must check in prior to the coaches meeting the day prior to the beginning of the tournament. NAIA staff will be at the check-in to greet all teams, provide informational materials, and answer questions.

Coaches Meeting - There will be a pre-tournament meeting for all coaches prior to the practice round on Monday. This meeting shall serve as an informational forum and will include a briefing by the tournament director and the head rules official. Coaches are required to attend this meeting.

Official Practice Round - A team may only play 5 players in the Official Practice Round at the National Championship.

Entry Fees - All National Championship qualifiers must pay the established entry fees prior to participation. Participating teams and individuals must also pay the established fee for room and meals arranged by the tournament host as a prerequisite for participation. Failure to pay required entry/housing fee will result in disqualification for the event.

Student-Athlete Experience - There will be a student-athlete experience at the National Championship to recognize the participating teams and any NAIA Hall of Fame inductees. All teams and individual qualifiers are required to be in attendance at this function and appropriate dress is required.

World University Games - The NAIA-MGCA will select a coach to serve as the NAIA coach/representative at the World University Games. The NAIA coach will establish criteria for team qualification, assist the NAIA student-athlete representatives in preparations before the event, supervise and coach the NAIA players at the Games, and submit a summary report to the NAIA-MGCA at the annual business meeting.

Radio and Television - The broadcast of any tournament round is governed by broadcast policies as established by the NAIA Athletics Communications Department. For information relative to these policies, please contact [Steve Wilson](#).

TRAVEL

TEAM HOUSING

All participating teams will have the option to select housing at one of the host hotels identified by the NAIA National Office. All participating teams must stay at one of the designated hotels. Failure to do so would make a team ineligible for participation. Teams pay all room, tax, and incidental charges.

SHORTS TRAVEL MANAGEMENT

Qualifying institutions are responsible for making their own travel arrangements to the National Championship.

The Official Travel partner of the NAIA is Short's Travel Management. Please contact **Short's Travel (816-323-6405)** to book your travel arrangements. Short's Travel has contacts with charter air travel as well as charter buses for ground travel.

NATIONAL CAR RENTAL

National Car Rental/Enterprise Rent-a-Car is offering special rates for the NAIA National Championship. Teams will be able to access these special rates by providing the special NAIA contract ID #XZ05146.

Click [here](#) for account setup and instructions to use code.

MASTER'S TRANSPORTATION

Master's Transportation is the official provider of all shuttles/buses for your sale, lease and rental needs. Please contact Maria Duran at (816) 979-3493 or mduran@masterstransportation.com for more information.

NAIA POLICY HANDBOOK INFORMATION

The NAIA Policy Handbook can be found at [HERE](#). Please refer directly to the NAIA Policy Handbook for the following –

Competition

- A. Declaration of Intent to Participate – Bylaws, Article I, Section L
- B. Frequency of Play and Scheduling – Bylaws, Article I, Section F
- C. Criteria for Countable Contests – National Administrative Council, Article XXV, Section A, Item 12
- D. Reporting Results – National Administrative Council, Article XXV, Section A
- E. Forfeits – National Administrative Council, Article XI
- F. Conduct in Competition Guidelines – National Administrative Council, Article IV
- G. Ejection Policy – Bylaws, Article VI Section B Item 7
- H. Drug Testing and Reinstatement Procedures – Bylaws, Article VIII

Eligibility

- A. Definitions for Eligibility – Bylaws, Article V, Section B
- B. Eligibility Requirements – Bylaws, Article V, Section C
- C. Transfer Rules – Bylaws, Article V, Sections F-H
- D. Amateur Rules and Reinstatement – Bylaws, Article VII

Recruiting & Financial Aid

- A. Recruitment – Bylaws, Article II, Section D
- B. Campus Visitations and Tryouts of Prospective Students – Bylaws, Article II, Section C
- C. Financial Assistance – Bylaws, Article II, Section B
- D. Financial Aid Limits – Council of Presidents, Article XII

SUNDAY PLAY POLICY

As a matter of policy, NAIA Opening Round and National Championship competition will not be scheduled on Sunday. See NAIA Policy Handbook, National Administrative Council, Article XXIII for additional information.

DRUG TESTING

Drug testing may be done at any randomly selected NAIA National Championship competition for performance enhancing drugs. In accordance with the guidelines set forth by the National Drug Testing and Education Committee, the National Office will select which championships will incorporate drug testing each year. Student-athletes may be tested before, during and/or after NAIA National Championships.

For more information regarding championship drug testing including the [Drug Testing Info Sheet](#) the safety of supplements and over-the-counter medications and resources to increase awareness on your campus, please visit – www.naia.org/wellness

DRUG TESTING CONSENT FORM

Each academic year all eligible NAIA student-athletes must sign a [Drug Testing Consent Form](#) in which he or she consents to be tested for the use of drugs prohibited by the NAIA Banned Substance List to participate in any NAIA National Championship competitions. This consent form shall be administered by the institution.

To ensure all student-athletes participating in NAIA National Championship competitions have signed a consent form and such form is on record with the institution, a representative of each institution participating in any NAIA National Championship competition must sign an Official Certification of Student-Athlete Consent Form at check-in.

It is recommended that before the season begins that an institution has all student-athletes complete the form to minimize the possibility of issues occurring when the postseason roster is submitted at a NAIA National Championship.

MEDICAL EXEMPTION FORM

The NAIA recognizes that some banned substances are used for legitimate medical purposes. Accordingly, the NAIA allows exemptions to be made for those student-athletes with a documented medical history demonstrating the need for regular use of



such a drug. Exemptions may be granted for substances included in the following classes of banned drugs – Stimulants, anabolic agents, beta blockers, diuretics, peptide hormones, anti-estrogens, and beta-2 agonists.

[Medical Exemption Form](#)

COACHES ASSOCIATION

NAIA-MEN'S GOLF COACHES ASSOCIATION

The NAIA-Men's Golf Coaches Association (NAIA-MGCA) is an association comprised of men's golf coaches whose institutions are members in good standing. This body can affect policy relative to the NAIA Men's Golf National Championship through membership approval to ultimately seek approval from the National Administrative Council (NAC).

The NAIA-MGCA elects officers who provide leadership for the Association and serve as the tournament committee for the National Championship (if their teams are not competing), along with the local tournament director and host PGA professional.

The NAIA National Championship is a function of the NAIA-MGCA, subject to its rules, policies and guidelines. The NAIA-MGCA will hold its annual business meeting in conjunction with the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) National Convention.

NAIA-MGCA VOTING

NAIA Coaches Associations must have a quorum (at least 50% of eligible voters) in order for a sport motion to be heard by the National Administrative Council. Motions and discussion will be presented at the Annual Business meeting at the GCAA Convention. Voting will also take place in person, at the Annual Business meeting.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING & SPORT MOTIONS

The annual business meeting for the NAIA-MGCA will take place in conjunction with the GCAA Convention on December 8-10, 2026, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Refer to the MGCA Constitution and Bylaws for the organization of the annual business meeting.

Coaches are able to submit sport motions to the NAIA-MGCA Chair and Sport Manager prior to the annual business meeting. All sport motions from the coaches' body affecting the NAIA Men's Golf National Championship will be distributed to all head coaches 1 week prior to the annual business meeting.

NAIA-MGCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Each officer will serve in their position for one year before progressing.

POSITION/TITLE	NAME, SCHOOL, & CONTACT INFORMATION
President	Kevin Long , Texas Wesleyan, kevinlong@txwes.edu
1st Vice President	Chris Butler , Lindsey Wilson (Ky.), butlerc@lindsey.edu
2nd Vice President	Dustyn Reinstette , Pikeville (Ky.), dustynreinstette@upike.edu
Secretary	Vacant
Past-President	Evans Nichols , Reinhardt (Ga.), Evans.Nichols@reinhardt.edu

Liaisons

NAC Chris Wells, wellsc@lindsey.edu
NAIA Rick Daum, rdaum@naia.org
GCAA Trey Duffey, trey@collegiategolf.com

COMMITTEES

Ratings Oversight Committee:

Chris Wells	Lindsey Wilson (Ky.)	wellsc@lindsey.edu
Richard Williams	Cumberland (Tenn.)	rwilliams@cumberland.edu
Brandon Miller	Keiser University (Fla.)	bmiller@keiseruniversity.edu

**All-America Selection Committee:**

Members of the NAIA-MGCA Executive Committee

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS OF NAIA-MGCA

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section I. The name of this association shall be the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics-Men's Golf Coaches Association (NAIA-MGCA).

ARTICLE II - ORGANIZATION

Section I. The NAIA-MGCA is an allied association of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. The NAIA-MGCA is charged with the responsibility of carrying out programs beneficial to the sport of men's golf and the member coaches of this sport. The activities of this association shall be in accordance with the aims and objectives of the NAIA and under the guidance of the NAIA National Administrative Council (NAC).

Section II. The NAIA-MGCA shall submit to the NAC statements governing the NAIA-MGCA, plans and practices for approval and in every way cooperate with the NAIA in furthering the stated aims and objectives of this parent organization.

ARTICLE III - AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Section I. The NAIA-MGCA shall supervise and conduct programs that foster and promote intercollegiate golf. The NAIA-MGCA shall establish policies and procedures for the conduct of the NAIA Men's Golf National Championship Tournament to include regional competition. These policies shall include appropriate recognition for teams, competitors and coaches.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Section I. Active membership in the NAIA-MGCA will be open to any men's golf coach at an institution holding current membership with the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Section II. There will be no membership dues charged to be a member of the NAIA-MGCA. The NAIA National Office will issue an official membership card to all men's golf coaches listed on the membership information roster submitted at the beginning of the academic year.

ARTICLE V - BUDGET

Section I. The NAIA-MGCA shall submit an annual budget request to the NAIA National Office prior to June 1, for approval by the NAIA Council of Presidents. A portion of NAIA institutional membership dues shall be assigned to the NAIA-MGCA to conduct its business.

ARTICLE VI - VOTING POWER

Section I. Current membership in the NAIA-MGCA entitles the member to one vote at any business meeting of the Association.

Section II. NAIA Coaches Associations must have a quorum (at least 50% of eligible voters) in order for a sport motion to be heard by the National Administrative Council. All voting will be completed using an online process following the business meeting in order to ensure all head coaches have an opportunity to vote. Motions will still be presented and discussed at the Annual Business meeting. If desired, a "straw poll" can be taken by those present to determine if a motion will be opened for vote to the full coaches association.

ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS

Section I. The officers of the NAIA-MGCA shall consist of a president, first vice president, second vice president and secretary. The officers shall be elected from the acting membership of the association at the annual business meeting and must represent NAIA-member institutions in good standing.

Section II. Term of office for the president, first vice president, second vice president and secretary shall be for one year.

Section III. The president, first vice president, second vice president, secretary and immediate past president shall make up the NAIA-MGCA Executive Committee.

Section IV. The progression in office shall be from secretary to second vice president to first vice president to president. Each office is to be held for one year from the NAIA-MGCA annual meeting to the next annual meeting. In the event a vacancy occurs, the normal progression from secretary to president shall be accelerated to fill the vacant office. The NAIA-MGCA Executive Committee is empowered to appoint officers from the membership at large to fill the remaining vacant position. Such an appointee will not succeed in the normal progression of offices unless duly elected by the membership at the next annual business meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section I. The duties of the president are to provide leadership and guidance for the NAIA-MGCA and represent the association at all official functions. The president shall plan the agenda and preside over all official business meetings of the NAIA-MGCA. Based on the rotation, the individual serving in the role of President will also be a member of the Council for Student-Athletes (CSA). This role on the CSA is a two year responsibility, regardless of their term lengths as an officer of the NAIA-MGCA.

Section II. The duties of the first vice president are to assume the leadership of the association at all meetings and functions when the president is not in attendance. The 1st Vice-President shall also chair the All-America selection committee.

Section III. The duties of the second vice president are to assume the leadership of the Association at all meetings and functions when the president and the first vice president are not in attendance. The second vice president also serves as chair of the NAIA-MGCA Scholar-Athlete Committee.

Section IV. The duties of the secretary are to take minutes at all meetings of the NAIA-MGCA, circulate minutes to the membership, maintain records and rosters of member coaches, and perform other duties as assigned by the president.

Section V. The past president shall serve on the NAIA-MGCA Executive Committee and act as a consultant to the president. The past president serves as chair of the nominating committee.

ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS

Section I. The annual business meeting of the NAIA-MGCA will be held in conjunction with the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) National Convention. A second interim meeting may be held in conjunction with the NAIA national convention, as determined by the NAIA-MGCA officers.

Section II. Usual order of business at the business meetings shall be as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Announcements
4. Committee Reports
5. Old Business
6. New Business
7. Adjournment

ARTICLE X - COMMITTEES

Section I. The president of the NAIA-MGCA is empowered to appoint committees that assist in the administration and recognition of golf programs; and enhance opportunities for teams, competitors and coaches.

Section II. Ad hoc committees shall be appointed by the president.

Section III. The NAIA-MGCA shall have six standing committees. The following is a list of those committees and their duties.

All-American Selection Committee: The first vice president will be chair of this committee. The remaining committee members shall be the officers of the NAIA-MGCA. The duties of this committee are to select the NAIA Men's Golf All-America teams according to selection procedures established by the NAIA-MGCA.

Rating Committee: This committee is composed of 19 raters, one each from the 17 NAIA conferences, 1 Continental Athletic Conference (CAC) (formerly Association of Independent Institutions), and 1 from each unaffiliated group. Members serve a two-year term and may be re-appointed. The terms of the rating committee members are staggered to ensure varied turnover and rating consistency. Each conference/CAC/unaffiliated groupings selects a new rater (by vote at or before the conference/CAC/unaffiliated groupings championship) in the final year of the current rater's two-year term. The Ratings Oversight Committee (established in 2002) is a sub-committee of the Rating Committee, and its members are selected based upon the current NAC Ratings and Awards Sub-Committee requirements.

Tournament Committee/ Rules Committee: The duties of this committee include the effective administration of the NAIA Men's Golf National Tournament and enforcement of official USGA Rules. The president, first vice president, second vice president

and secretary serve on the Tournament/Rules Committee if their team is not in the tournament, otherwise a neutral member is selected by the national office, in addition to the local tournament director and the host PGA Professional. The host PGA Professional will serve as the Rules Committee chair.

Nominating Committee: The duties of this committee are to present a slate of officers to be voted on at the annual meeting. The immediate past president of the NAIA-MGCA shall serve as chair of this committee.

Hall of Fame Committee: The immediate past president shall also serve as chair of this committee. The purpose of this committee is to identify and cultivate appropriate nominations for the NAIA Men's Golf Hall of Fame in the category of athlete, coach or meritorious service.

ARTICLE XI - NATIONAL TOURNAMENT/OFFICIAL RULES

Section I. The NAIA National Golf Tournament is a function of the NAIA-MGCA, subject to its policies and guidelines.

Section II. Official United States Golf Association (USGA) Rules govern NAIA conference/CAC/unaffiliated groupings and national tournament play; supplemented by any local rules and the NAIA-MGCA tournament modifications.

ARTICLE XII - CONSTITUTION CHANGE

Section I. Proposed amendments to the Constitution of the NAIA-MGCA must be presented in writing to the president. The president must see that the proposal is presented to the membership at the next annual business meeting. The amendment must win two-thirds vote of approval by current members of NAIA-MGCA present at the annual business meeting for approval. Approved amendments then must be submitted to the NAC for appropriate action.

REPORTING RESULTS AND STATISTICS

REPORTING RESULTS/SUBMITTING SCORES

Mandated by the NAC, all contest results must be reported to the NAIA scoreboard within 24 hours of completion in order to be eligible for team and/or individual weekly ratings and honors. Institutions failing to report statistics and/or results any **two consecutive weeks, or a total of four weeks**, during the reporting period will not be eligible for the national statistical reports or ratings for the remainder of the season.

Institutions failing to report results for two consecutive weeks, or four total weeks during the season will be subject to a monetary penalty. The first violation will continue to be a warning. Any second violation (first penalty), will be a \$500 fine. The third violation will be a \$1,000 fine and a loss of postseason awards. The fourth violation will be a \$1,000 fine and will be dealt with at the discretion of membership services. Fines will be due within 30 days of notification.

Reporting team scores to Clipd website provides greater team exposure to media, coaches, potential student-athletes and fans.

SCORING APPLICATIONS

New in 2026-27: Use of Clipd/Scoreboard or scoring applications with a third-party integration to Clipd is mandatory for regular and post-season events.

STATISTICS

An in-season, weekly national statistical report is produced utilizing Clipd for the sport of golf. To be eligible for the statistical report, a student-athlete must play in 75-percent of team's games played. Only statistics from games against varsity teams from upper-level, degree-granting institutions should be submitted. Categories will be determined on a sport-by-sport basis and by the NAIA Athletics Communications Department.

It is strongly recommended that the host institution be responsible for both team's official statistics. The home team must notify opposing team at least 72 hours prior to contest if official stats will not be provided. The opposing team can file an appeal if they feel an error was made in the official stats up to 72 hours after the conclusion of the contest. The appeal must be filed with the home team up to 72 hours after the contest and both teams must change the stats.

AWARDS

GOLFER OF THE WEEK

All NAIA member institutions are permitted to nominate candidates for National Player of the Week for all sports in which they declare for NAIA postseason. National Golfers of the Week are selected from the pool of Conference/CAC/Group Golfers of the Week and are released on Tuesdays during the regular season. The 2026-27 NAIA National Player of the Week schedule can be found [HERE](#).

ALL-AMERICA

All-America awards are annually bestowed on the most outstanding athletes in the NAIA. Criteria for the awards and the procedures for selection and implementation are forwarded by each coaches association and approved by the NAC. Please note some sports recognize All-America selections by order of finish, while others require submission of materials at the Conference/CAC/Group level.

The NAIA Men's Golf All-American team will be determined by a committee that considers all postseason eligible student athletes. NAIA will recognize a First, Second, & Third team with 15 golfers on each team. The NAIA Men's Golf All-American team will be announced May 27, 2027.

CHAMPIONS OF CHARACTER INDIVIDUAL STUDENT AWARD

Each participating team shall nominate one student-athlete that has shown a documented display of exemplary character and sportsmanship during competition, on campus and in the community that exemplify the core values of Integrity, Respect, Responsibility, Sportsmanship and Servant Leadership.

NAIA SCHOLAR-ATHLETE

Criteria for the NAIA Scholar-Athlete Award are as follows:

1. Nominee must be a sophomore or above in academic standing;
2. Nominee must have been in attendance at the nominating institution one full academic year at the time of the nomination deadline (April 15)
3. Nominee has a minimum grade point average of 3.50 (on a 4.0 scale) at the time of the nomination deadline (for transfer students the GPA is only at current NAIA institution).
4. Nominee has been certified as eligible and is listed on the eligibility certificate submitted to conference eligibility chair.
5. Nomination form is complete and submitted through NAIA Connect.
6. All the above information is to be received by April 15 to be eligible for national press release/website, certificate and honors database – All criteria must be met by this date.

NOTE – There are no statistical/playing requirements needed to receive this award. NAIA Scholar-Athlete nominations will be filled out via [NAIA Connect](#).

If you do not have an account, please sign up and create your own. Access will be granted (usually) within 24 hours. Nominations will be processed entirely electronically. To complete a nomination, the student-athlete must have approved and signed a release of their cumulative grade point average for nominating purposes. If you or your sports information office does not have a signed release form from the nominated student-athlete on file, a blank document (PDF) will be available for download.

This release form does not need to be turned into the NAIA National Office. You are asked to retain it for your institutional records. The administrator nominating the student-athlete will sign electronically. To be eligible for listing on website or honors database, forms must be submitted by **April 15, 2027**. Late nominations will not be accepted.

To download a template to create an award certificate for your student-athletes that have earned this honor, [CLICK HERE](#).

RED BANNER SCHOLAR AWARD

New in 2026-27: The Red Banner Scholar Award recognizes the highest level of academic achievement among student-athletes competing at each NAIA National Championship Final Site. The award celebrates the NAIA's commitment to developing champions in the classroom, character, and competition by honoring the student-athlete(s) with the highest cumulative institutional grade point average participating in the national championship.



Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the Red Banner Scholar Award, a student-athlete must:

1. Be listed on the official active championship roster (team sports) or be an official qualifier and active participant (individual sports) at the NAIA National Championship Final Site.
2. Be recognized as an NAIA Scholar-Athlete for the applicable academic year.
3. Meet all established NAIA Scholar-Athlete eligibility requirements and be submitted through the official NAIA Scholar-Athlete nomination process by the applicable sport deadline.

Selection Process

The NAIA National Office will determine the recipient(s) using approved NAIA Scholar-Athlete data.

- The eligible student-athlete with the highest cumulative institutional GPA at the national championship final site will receive the Red Banner Scholar Award.
- In the event of a tie for the highest GPA, all tied student-athletes will be recognized as co-recipients.
- No additional nomination is required beyond the NAIA Scholar-Athlete submission process.

SCHOLAR TEAM AWARD

In recognition of academic achievement, the NAIA names a Scholar Team for all sports in which Scholar-Athletes are recognized. **Based on a cumulative 3.0 season GPA for the current academic year** on a 4.0 scale, all members of the team who appear on the eligibility certificate will be included in the GPA compilation.

The deadline for Scholar Team nominations is **June 30, 2027**. Download the NAIA Scholar Team Award Form [HERE](#).

MEN'S GOLF COACH OF THE YEAR

The Coach of the Year will be selected by the MGCA officers. Criteria that will be considered includes: tournament schedule, record, conference record, and national performance.

MEN'S GOLF PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The NAIA will be awarding the NAIA Men's Golf Player of the Year Award to the most outstanding male golfer in the NAIA. Below are the parameters on how the recipient will be selected.

- A. The All-America Selection Committee will evaluate the Top 30 players from the CLIPPD individual rankings data which will include the regular season results and Conference/CAC/Group Tournaments as well as the National Championship results.
- B. Each player under consideration for this honor must have completed a minimum of 12 rounds
- C. Each Awards Committee member will review the tournament profiles of all candidates and will make comparisons between the players. Criteria used to evaluate each player are as follows
 - a. Head to Head Competition,
 - b. Comparison with common opponents
 - c. Scoring average (adjusted)
 - d. Place finishes in regular season events and tournament wins
 - e. Strength of schedule
- D. The criteria will be prioritized in the above order if a decision becomes difficult to determine.
- E. The committee will discuss and vote to determine the winner following the conclusion of the National Championship.
- F. The recipient will be announced and presented the award the Tuesday following the GCAA's Jack Nicklaus ceremony.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

The NAIA maintains a standardized awards program for its national championship, with awards provided to the official parties of the top four teams. A 15-member All-Tournament Team, including the Tournament Most Valuable Player, is selected. The Tournament Most Valuable Player is included as part of the 15-member All-Tournament Team. Individual awards for the National Tournament Medalist (O.D. Bounds Memorial Trophy), and the Individual Runner-Up are also presented during the awards ceremony.

ORDERING AWARDS

Appropriate conference tournament awards are to be ordered by the conference chair and are the financial responsibility of the conference or the conference tournament host institution. Official NAIA awards **MUST** be [ordered](#) from:

Collegiate Awards

18081 E. Trafficway, Springfield, MO 65802

Contact – Brad Stout – brads@collegiateawards.com