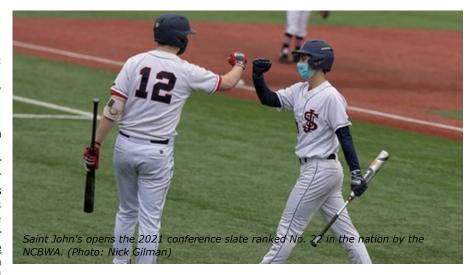
## MIAC baseball squads set for conference play

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**BLOOMINGTON, Minn.** – After a month of nonconference action, Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) baseball teams are set to begin conference play this weekend for the first time since May of 2019.

The 2021 MIAC baseball season will officially begin an expanded 12-round conference season on Friday, April 2 with mid-week and Saturday play dates set for doubleheaders and Sunday play dates designated for single nine-inning games. Conference make-up games will be allowed only within each scheduled round. Thanks to good weather throughout March, several teams have already been able to move games outside. For outdoor competition this spring, each MIAC institution will create its own policy regarding spectator attendance in accordance with Minnesota Department of Health and



campus protocol. No spectators are permitted when a contest is conducted at an on-campus indoor facility, including domes. When a contest is conducted at an off-campus indoor facility and a MIAC team is designated as the host, spectators are limited to remaining outside of the playing area, contingent upon the facility and campus spectator policies. The complete 2021 MIAC baseball schedule can be found here.

In accordance with the NCAA Tournament shifting back one week, the <u>2021 MIAC Baseball Playoffs</u> will move back one week to May 19-22. The team with the best conference winning percentage that has played at least 51 percent of its scheduled conference games after Round 11 of the regular season will be named conference champion and receive the No. 1 seed in the MIAC Playoffs. Teams ranked 2-11 in the conference standings after Round 11 will compete in a best-of-three series during Round 12 to feed into the MIAC Tournament. The team ranked No. 2 in the standings by straight winning percentage will play the team ranked No. 11, No. 3 will play No. 10, etc., with the low seed (ex: No. 11) hosting a 9-inning game on Saturday, May 15 and the high seed (ex: No. 2) hosting two 9-inning games on Sunday, May 16. All three games of the series will be played. Teams that win the Round 12 three-game series will retain their regular season seeding position and advance to the MIAC Playoffs, which will be expanded to include six teams this season.

The first round of the conference tournament will follow a single-elimination "play-in" format followed by the traditional four-team double-elimination format over the final three days of playoff competition. The top two seeds in the tournament will automatically advance to the four-team double-elimination format. In the play-in round, No. 3 will host No. 6 and No. 4 will host No. 5. The location and host for the four-team double-elimination portion is yet to be determined.

Continuing throughout the regular season, the MIAC will honor outstanding individual performances each Monday with the announcement of the Baseball Player and Pitcher of the Week. Postseason awards are planned for selection and announcement in May. Additional information related to the 2021 MIAC Baseball season can be found via the links below.

MIAC Baseball | Schedule | News | Statistics | Athletes of the Week | Playoffs | Archives |