

2020-21 MIAC Men's Golf Championship Preview

Posted: Apr 29, 2021

HASTINGS, Minn. – For the first time in nearly 600 days, Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) golf teams are set for championship competition. The 2020-21 MIAC Men's Golf Championships are set to tee off on Friday morning in Hastings, Minn.

Nine MIAC teams will compete in the three-day, 54-hole conference tournament, which will be played at Emerald Greens Golf Course. Carleton College will serve as tournament host.

CHAMPIONSHIP 101

The action will begin Friday morning with the first wave of golfers set to tee off at 9:00 a.m. Teams are seeded based on their finish in the fall 2019 Championships and golfers will tee off in descending order of their place in the lineup (No. 5 to No. 1). Pairings will be sorted by teams this year out of an abundance of caution due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The 2019 MIAC Champion St. Thomas Tommies will kick off the action at 9:00 a.m., with teams following in order of 2019 finish every ten minutes after.

Saturday's tee times will be reordered according to first-day scores with golfers slotted according to first-round results. Second-round tee times begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday. Round three will get underway at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday. Each school will enter five players in the tournament, with the four best performances each day determining the team score.

The team that comes away with the lowest score over the course of the tournament will receive the MIAC's automatic qualifier to the 2021 NCAA Division III Men's Golf Championship.

First-round tee times can be found [here](#). Teams have until 9:00 a.m. on Friday to submit their final lineups.

FOLLOW THE ACTION

Spectators are permitted to attend the 2020-21 MIAC Golf Championships at Emerald Greens Golf Course but **must** follow all [local and spectator rules found here](#). Fans not in attendance in Hastings can follow all the action via unofficial live scoring and hole-by-hole updates through Golfstat's live scoring system.

The MIAC has a championship home page for the event, that will serve as the online home of the tournament. The championship page will include tee times, pairings, and results as they become available, as well as recaps and photos.

| [Championship Home Page](#) | [Men's Live Scoring](#) | [Local and Spectator Rules](#) |

IN THE POLLS

St. Thomas and Gustavus both received Top 25 placement in the latest [Bushnell Golfweek Division III Coaches' Poll](#), released on April 16. The Tommies find themselves at No. 22 in the nation, while Gustavus is not far behind at No. 24. Saint John's received votes in the most recent balloting.

TIDBITS FROM THE TEEBOX

Augsburg first-year golfer **Stellan Orvick** finished day one of the Saint John's Spring Invitational last weekend tied for first place with a 2-under-par 70 in the opening round. Orvick tied for fifth overall with a two-day total of 145 (70-75) in a field of 93 golfers.

Bethel senior **Michael Piehler** captured a first-place finish at Emerald Greens in Hastings, Minn. earlier this season, carding a career-best 71 in each round for a 36-hole score of 142 at the Bethel Preview on April 10-11. Piehler helped lead Bethel to a first-place team finish at the tournament, the first for the Royals since 2015.

Carleton sophomore **Anderson Murphy** placed third individually at the Bethel Preview on April 10-11 with a two-round score of 147 (71-76). The Knights scored three golfers in the tournament's top-six leading to a runner-up showing as a team with the program's best 36-hole score in more than a decade.

Concordia first-year golfer **Justin Lamp** registered a hole-in-one at the Cobbers' dual meet with Fergus Falls CC on April 21. Lamp's first-ever ace helped him shoot 32 on the front side to finish with an individual medalist score of 73.



Gustavus junior **Jacob Pedersen** will be the only former MIAC medalist in action this weekend, having won the conference tournament in 2018. Pedersen placed second individually in 2019. Only six men on record have earned MIAC medalist honors multiple times: Dan Prochnow (Gustavus; 1976-78), J.P. Prenevost (Gustavus; 1996, 1998), Mike Maras (Gustavus; 1985-86), Jon Lindquist (Gustavus; 1990-91), Scott Moe (Gustavus; 1992-94), and Joe Schoolmeesters (Saint John's; 2006, 2008).

Macalester sophomore **Fritz Gessl** led the way for the Scots at the Bobby Krig Invitational on April 18-19, finishing the meet with a two-day score of 152 (73-79). Gessl has placed in the top-10 of two of his three tournament appearances this spring.

Saint John's sophomore **Thomas Gutzmer** will head into the 2021 MIAC Championships with momentum after claiming medalist honors at Saint John's Spring Invitational last weekend. Gutzmer placed first out of 93 golfers with a two-round total of 141 (70-71), securing his third top-five finish of the 2021 season. Gutzmer's 73.8 average over six rounds this spring is tied for the third-best mark in the conference.

St. Olaf senior **Casey Parker** earned All-Championship Team honors at the 2019 MIAC Championships with a tenth-place finish. Parker, Gustavus' Pedersen (2nd), and St. Thomas' **Jack Nasby** (T-3rd) are the only three 2019 All-Tournament Team honorees to return to the field for the 2021 conference tournament.

St. Thomas first-year golfer **Matt Armstrong** carded five birdies over a 15-hole stretch in just his second collegiate tournament earlier in April. In a field of 79 players at the Bobby Krig Invitational on April 18-19, Armstrong claimed medalist honors by seven strokes with an even-par score of 141 over two days and two courses. He leads the MIAC with an average score of 72.2 over five rounds of golf this spring.