

2021 MIAC Men's Golf Championship Preview

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COON RAPIDS, Minn. – The first Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) championships of the 2021-22 academic year are set to tee off this weekend, as men's and women's golfers from the MIAC return to Bunker Hills Golf Club in Coon Rapids, Minn. for the first time in five seasons to compete in the 2021 MIAC Golf Championships.

Bunker Hills hosted the MIAC Men's Golf Championships for 20 years from 1997-2017 and Women's Golf Championships for 11 years from 2006-2017 before renovations shifted the conference tournament to other courses around the State of Minnesota.

This weekend, nine men's teams and ten women's teams from the MIAC will now be back at Bunker Hills for the three-day, 54-hole conference championship running from Saturday, October 2 through Monday, October 4. Augsburg University and Saint John's University will serve as hosts.



CHAMPIONSHIP 101

Men's golf action will begin Saturday morning with the first wave of golfers set to tee off at 11:28 a.m. Teams are seeded based on their finish in the 2020-21 MIAC Spring Championships and golfers will tee off in descending order of their place in the lineup (No. 5 to No. 1). The 2020-21 MIAC Champion Saint John's University Johnnies will tee off alongside Concordia and Gustavus to start the tournament at 11:28 a.m., with teams following in order of 2020-21 finish every eight minutes after. Bethel, St. Olaf, and Carleton are tentatively set to begin teeing off at 12:08 p.m. on Saturday, followed by Macalester, Augsburg, and MIAC newcomer St. Scholastica at 12:48 p.m.

Sunday'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 11:10 a.m. on Sunday. Round three will get underway at 8:34 a.m. on Monday. 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 2022 NCAA Division III Men's Golf Championship.

MIAC men's golfers will play the East then West courses each day. Championship tee times can be found [here](#). Teams have until Friday to submit their lineups.

| [2021-22 Men's Golf Statistics](#) | [Men's Golf Record Book](#) |

FOLLOW THE ACTION

Spectators are permitted to attend the 2021 MIAC Golf Championships at Bunker Hills Golf Club and must follow all local and spectator rules. Fans not in attendance in Coon Rapids 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 Rules](#) | [Spectator Rules](#) |

IN THE POLLS

Saint John's moved into the Top 25 in the latest edition of the [Bushnell Golfweek Preseason Coaches' Poll](#), released on September 17. The Johnnies debuted at No. 20, while Gustavus picked up 36 points in the balloting.

ALL-CHAMPIONSHIP RETURNERS

Nine former MIAC All-Championship Team honorees will be back on the course this weekend including Augsburg's **Stellan Orvick** (8th 2020) and **River Goodman** (T5th 2019); Concordia's **Mason Opheim** (T5th 2020) and **Sam Henke** (T9th 2020); Gustavus' **Jacob Pedersen** (T5th 2020, 2nd 2019, 1st 2018) and **Max Ullan** (T5th 2019, 8th 2018); and Saint John's **Thomas Gutzmer** (T1st 2020), **Sam Berger** (3rd 2020), and **Glavine Schugel** (T9th 2020).

TIDBITS FROM THE TEEBOX

Augsburg sophomore **Stellan Orvick** has two top-five finishes this season, both of which occurred in the last two weeks. Orvick tied for third at the Wrigglesworth Classic on 9/19-20 with a 78-76=154 (+10) and tied for fifth at the Twin Cities Classic on 9/25-27 with a

73+72+77=222 (+6).

Bethel first-year **Will Karkoc** notched a ninth-place finish at the Saint John's Fall Invitational on 9/18-19, shooting a collegiate-best 72-78=150 (+6) over two rounds. Four birdies in the opening round paced him to an even 72 on 9/18.

Carleton junior **Anderson Murphy** has recorded the Knights' three lowest rounds this fall, carding 72s in the second rounds of both the Augsburg Fall Invitational on 9/5 and Minnesota Golf Classic on 9/12 before registering a one-under-par 71 in the second round of the Twin Cities Classic on 9/26.

Concordia senior **Mason Opheim** has finished in the top-10 three times in four tournaments this fall with one top-five result. He was the tournament runner-up at last weekend's Twin Cities Classic, shooting a 69-78-72=219 (+3) over 54 holes.

Gustavus senior **Jacob Pedersen** has tied for third place in two tournaments this fall. The MIAC medalist in 2018 and runner-up in 2019 carded a 75-71=146 (+2) at the season-opening Augsburg Invitational on 9/4-5 and tallied a 71-75-75=221 (+5) last weekend at the Twin Cities Classic.

Macalester junior **Tommy Hayes** has turned in three of the Scots' five lowest 18-hole totals this season, hitting first-round 74s all three times at the Augsburg Fall Invitational (9/4), Minnesota Golf Classic (9/11), and Saint John's Fall Invitational (9/18).

Saint John's sophomore **Nate Loxtercamp** earned medalist honors at the Johnnies' home invitational on 9/18-19 with a two-round score of 68-73=141 (-3). Loxtercamp has placed among the top five at three of four tournaments this fall, earning a runner-up performance at the Augsburg Fall Invitational on 9/4-5 with a 72-73=145 (-1) and tying for fifth place at the Twin Cities Classic last weekend after shooting 71-78-73=222 (+6).

St. Olaf senior **Cooper Lukenda** was the Oles' top finisher at the Twin Cities Classic on 9/25-27, going 77-81-77=235 (+19). Lukenda had three birdies on an even-par 36 on the back nine on 9/25 and rose nearly 20 spots up the leaderboard on 9/27 with his second 77 of the event.

St. Scholastica first-year **Jamin Durfee** paced the Saints at last weekend's Twin Cities Classic, shooting 80-87-79=246 (+30). His first- and third-round scores represent two of the team's four lowest 18-hole totals this season.

2021-22 MIAC Statistical Leaders

Individual

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Rounds</u> | <u>Shots</u> | <u>Average</u> |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Glavine Schugel, Saint John's | 10 | 723 | 72.3 |
| Jacob Pedersen, Gustavus | 11 | 805 | 73.2 |
| Thomas Gutzmer, Saint John's | 10 | 734 | 73.4 |
| Casey Parker, St. Olaf | 7 | 515 | 73.6 |
| Nate Loxtercamp, Saint John's | 10 | 736 | 73.6 |
| Mason Opheim, Concordia | 9 | 668 | 74.2 |
| Stellan Orvick, Augsburg | 10 | 744 | 74.4 |
| Max Ullan, Gustavus | 11 | 819 | 74.5 |
| Wyatt Wasko, Gustavus | 11 | 829 | 74.5 |
| Andrew Boemer, Saint John's | 10 | 755 | 75.5 |

Team

| <u>Rounds</u> | <u>Shots</u> | <u>Average</u> |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| 10 | 2930 | 293.0 |
| 11 | 3285 | 298.6 |
| 9 | 2737 | 304.1 |
| 10 | 3070 | 307.0 |
| 10 | 3078 | 307.8 |
| 10 | 3121 | 312.1 |
| 10 | 3176 | 317.6 |
| 10 | 3219 | 321.9 |
| 9 | 3156 | 350.7 |