

2021 MIAC Men's Soccer Preview

Posted: Aug 31, 2021

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. - After a 2020 fall season without athletics and an abbreviated schedule of contests in the spring of 2021, Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) men's soccer teams are ready to return to the pitch for a full state of competitive games this fall.

Sixteen games and several scrimmages were played by MIAC men's soccer teams this past spring; however, September marks the conference's return to the traditional fall regular season format for the first time in nearly two full years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It also marks the first change in membership for the league since the 1985 campaign, as the University of St. Thomas departed the MIAC for NCAA Division I in July and the conference welcomed The College of St. Scholastica to the fold as its 13th member.



Non-conference action officially gets underway on Wednesday, September 1. The first conference games since November of 2019 are set to be played on September 15 and will continue on through the end of October.

The top six teams in the conference standings at the end of the regular season will move on to the conference playoffs. The 2021 MIAC Men's Soccer Playoffs will begin with two quarterfinal contests on Monday, November 1, followed by a pair of semifinal matches on Wednesday, November 3. The 2021 MIAC Men's Soccer Playoff Championship is set for Saturday, November 6, with the winner securing the conference's automatic qualifier to the NCAA Tournament. The 2021 NCAA Division III Men's Soccer Championship is scheduled for December 3-4, 2021 at UNC-Greensboro Soccer Stadium in Greensboro, N.C.

Throughout the 2021 season, the MIAC will honor outstanding individual performances each week with the announcement of the men's soccer Athletes of the Week. Weekly selections will begin on Tuesday, September 7 and continue on each subsequent Monday through the end of the regular season.

As health and safety guidelines are likely to remain in place for some time, fans are encouraged to review the [MIAC COVID-19 Competition Plan](#) and refer to each campus' protocols prior to attending events this fall.

LAST TIME OUT

2019 Regular Season Champion(s): Gustavus, St. Thomas

2019 Playoff Champion: Gustavus

2019 MIAC Playoff Berths: Gustavus, St. Thomas, Carleton, Saint John's, Macalester, St. Olaf

2019 NCAA Tournament Berths: Gustavus

2019 Player of the Year: Lionel Vang | M | Augsburg

2019 Coach of the Year: Jon Lowery | St. Thomas

LOOKING AHEAD

United Soccer Coaches Rankings: No. 25 Gustavus

First Non-Conference Date: Wednesday, September 1

First Conference Match Date: Wednesday, September 15

Playoff Dates: November 1 (QF), November 3 (SF), November 6 (Championship)

Season Links: [Schedule](#) | [News](#) | [Statistics](#) | [Athletes of the Week](#) | [Playoffs](#) | [Record Book](#) |