

# 2022 MIAC Softball season set to begin

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**BLOOMINGTON, Minn.** - The 2022 Softball season officially begins this Saturday for several Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) programs. Five teams are set to compete in early season dome games this weekend and five more will join in the action next week.

The 2022 season will also be the first to include The College of St. Scholastica as a full member of the conference. Prior to officially joining the MIAC in July of 2021, the Saints won ten consecutive conference championships as members of the Upper Midwest Conference (UMAC) from 2009-18.

The MIAC returned to play with a full season of softball last spring after the COVID-19 pandemic canceled the 2020 campaign. This year, teams are preparing for Minnesota dome games in February and early March before several squads head down to Florida for warm weather spring break games next month. Conference play is set to begin the first weekend in April and will lead up to the six-team, single-elimination [MIAC Softball Playoffs](#). The new playoff format - a departure from the previous four-team, double-elimination model - was approved to be in effect ahead of the 2020 season but has been delayed for two seasons due to COVID.

The 2022 MIAC Softball Playoffs will begin with two quarterfinal contests on Thursday, May 5. Two quarterfinal games will then take place on Saturday, May 7, with the championship game to follow the same afternoon. Sunday, May 8 has been designated as a rain date if weather becomes a factor. The winner of the MIAC Playoffs will receive the conference's automatic qualifier to the 2022 NCAA Softball Championships. The Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) and City of Salem are set to host the 2022 NCAA Division III Softball Championship May 26-31 at Moyer Sports Complex in Salem, Va.

Throughout the 2022 season, the MIAC will honor outstanding individual performances each Monday with the announcement of the Softball Player and Pitcher of the Week. Postseason awards are planned for selection and announcement in May. Conference and institutional health and safety protocols for the outdoor spring season will be announced in early March.



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## LAST TIME OUT

2021 Regular Season Champion: St. Olaf

2021 Playoff Champion: St. Thomas

2021 MIAC Playoff Berths: St. Olaf, Bethel, Saint Benedict, St. Thomas, St. Catherine, Concordia

2021 NCAA Tournament Berths: St. Thomas, St. Olaf

2021 Player of the Year: Angela Huepfel | 1B | St. Catherine

2021 Pitcher of the Year: Julie Graf | RHP | St. Olaf

2021 Rookie of the Year: Bryn Carlstrom | SS | Saint Benedict

2021 Coach of the Year: Kayla Hatting | St. Olaf

## LOOKING AHEAD

First Non-Conference Game Date: Saturday, February 19

First Conference Game Date: Saturday, April 2

Playoff Dates: May 5 (QF), May 7 (SF/Championship), May 8 (Rain Date)

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