

MIAC announces 2019-20 Women's Golf awards

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BLOOMINGTON, Minn. – The Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) announced its award recipients for the 2019-20 women's golf season on Wednesday.

Carleton senior **Alyssa Akiyama** was named MIAC Player and Senior of the Year, while Bethel first-year golfer **Anna Tollefson** received Rookie of the Year honors and her head coach, **Trent Anderson**, was selected as the Coach of the Year.

Akiyama (Sr. | Terrace Park, Ohio | Seven Hills School) won three of the five tournaments she competed in last fall, including the MIAC Championship meet during which she set 36- and 54-hole scoring records to claim the second conference title of her career. She finished that tournament with a three-day total of 220 and now owns three of the five lowest 54-hole scores in MIAC history. Akiyama concluded her senior season ranked No. 4 in Golfstat's NCAA Division III computer rankings after posting a 74.21 adjusted scoring average for the year. One of five women to receive multiple MIAC Player of the Year honors, Akiyama is the first in conference history to bookend her career with the award, having previously won in her debut season in 2016-17. This is the fifth time in the last six seasons that a Carleton golfer has received MIAC Women's Golf Player of the Year honors. Akiyama is also the fifth Knight in the last six years to be named MIAC Senior of the Year.

Tollefson (Fy. | La Crescent, Minn. | LaCrescent-HoKah) recorded top-10 finishes in four of her five events last fall, posting a 77.3 scoring average in her debut season. She carded sub-80 scores in 10 of her 11 rounds, shooting a season-low 74 twice and earning medalist honors once. She placed fifth individually at the MIAC Championship meet last September.

Anderson received his first Coach of the Year honor after guiding the Royals to the program's first-ever MIAC Championship last fall. Bethel finished the year ranked tenth in the nation in the Women's Golf Coaches' Association Division III Top 25 Poll and at No. 9 in the final Golfstat program rankings. Bethel posted three first-place finishes as a team along with 12 top-10 individual performances in 2019.

The MIAC Women's Golf All-Conference team was selected using a combination of MIAC championship results and end-of-season voting. The top 10 finishers (including ties) at the MIAC Championship meet in September automatically earned All-MIAC honors, and the coaches nominated and voted to add five additional players to the 15-member squad based on their body of work throughout the season. The conference also recognized honorable mention selections, bestowing the accolade upon any individual who did not place among the top-five vote-getters but still received consideration on multiple ballots.

Carleton's **Alyssa Akiyama** became the 15th woman in MIAC golf history to earn four straight All-Conference honors, while Bethel's **Nicole Miller** and St. Olaf's **Melissa Biesmann** earned All-MIAC distinction for the third time. Carleton's **Kristin Miyagi** also received All-Conference honors for the second year in a row. The 2019-20 All-Conference Team includes four seniors, two juniors, five sophomores, and four first-year players. Bethel and St. Catherine led all teams with four honorees each, while Carleton had three, St. Thomas had two, and Gustavus and St. Olaf both had one. Macalester, Saint Benedict, and St. Olaf were also represented with players on the honorable mention squad.

As part of a conference-wide sportsmanship initiative, the MIAC also announced the 14th annual All-MIAC Sportsmanship team for women's golf. Members of the All-MIAC Sportsmanship team are selected by their coaches and teammates as individuals who demonstrate ideals of positive sportsmanship both on and off the field of competition.



2019-20 MIAC Women's Golf Awards

Player of the Year – Alyssa Akiyama, Carleton College (Sr. | Terrace Park, Ohio | Seven Hills School)
Senior of the Year – Alyssa Akiyama, Carleton College (Sr. | Terrace Park, Ohio | Seven Hills School)
Rookie of the Year – Anna Tollefson, Bethel University (Fy. | La Crescent, Minn. | LaCrescent-HoKah)
Coach of the Year – Trent Anderson, Bethel University (Ninth Season)

2019-20 MIAC Women's Golf All-Conference Team

Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School	Previous Selections
Alyssa Akiyama	Carleton	Sr.	Terrace Park, Ohio Seven Hills School	2017 2018 2019
Jordan Amelon	St. Catherine	Jr.	Iowa City, Iowa West	--

Melissa Biesmann	St. Olaf	Sr.	Fitchburg, Wis. Verona	2017 2018
Sydney Brandt	St. Catherine	So.	Brookfield, Wis. Catholic Memorial	--
Sydney Brown	St. Catherine	Fy.	Eau Claire, Wis. North	--
Katie Engelking	Bethel	Sr.	Edina, Minn.	--
Erin Ericson	Gustavus	So.	Onalaska, Wis.	--
Cayla Kim	St. Thomas	Fy.	Woodbury, Minn. Shattuck-St. Mary's	--
Claudia Kim	St. Thomas	Fy.	Woodbury, Minn. Shattuck-St. Mary's	--
Nicole Miller	Bethel	Jr.	Eden Prairie, Minn.	2018 2019
Kristin Miyagi	Carleton	So.	Honolulu, Hawaii 'Iolani School	2019
Ana Schwarz	Bethel	So.	Marshall, Minn.	--
Kelsey Sullivan	Carleton	Sr.	Simsbury, Conn.	--
Kate Taylor	St. Catherine	So.	Salt Lake City, Utah Skyline	--
Anna Tollefson	Bethel	Fy.	La Crescent, Minn. LaCrescent-HoKah	--

2019-20 MIAC Women's Golf Honorable Mention

Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School	Previous Selections
Solveig Christenson	St. Olaf	Sr.	Red Wing, Minn.	2019 (1T)
Emily Olson	Saint Benedict	Jr.	Sioux Falls, S.D. O'Gorman	2019 (1T)
Tenley Smith	Macalester	So.	Williamstown, Mass. Mount Greylock Regional	--

2019-20 MIAC Women's Golf All-Sportsmanship Team

Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School
Lilia Lindgren	Augsburg	Fy.	Elko New Market, Minn. New Prague
Katie Engelking	Bethel	Sr.	Edina, Minn.
Ananya Shah	Carleton	So.	Maple Grove, Minn. Wayzata
Katie Krueger	Concordia	Sr.	River Falls, Wis.
Erin Ericson	Gustavus	So.	Onalaska, Wis.
Emma Iverson	Macalester	So.	Northfield, Minn.
Nikki Fredrickson	Saint Benedict	Sr.	Duluth, Minn. East
Rachael Wolfe	St. Catherine	Fy.	Inver Grove Heights, Minn. Simley
Madyson Ulrey	Saint Mary's	Fy.	North Manchester, Ind. Manchester
Jane Schlendorf	St. Olaf	Sr.	Lake Oswego, Ore. Oregon Episcopal
Sydney Steinmetz	St. Thomas	So.	Oshkosh, Wis. West