

2020-21 MIAC Women's Golf Championship Preview

Posted: Apr 29, 2021

HASTINGS, Minn. – Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) women's golf teams are ready for championship competition for the first time in more than eighteen months. The 2020-21 MIAC Women's Golf Championships are set to tee off on Friday morning in Hastings, Minn.

Ten 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 10:50 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 Bethel Royals will kick off the action at 10:50 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 10:50 a.m. on Saturday. Round three will get underway at 10:50 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 Women's Golf Championship.

First-round tee times can be found [here](#). Teams have until 10:50 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](#) | [Women's Live Scoring](#) | [Local and Spectator Rules](#) |

IN THE POLLS

A pair of MIAC teams are ranked among the top 13 in the nation in the latest [Women's Golf Coaches' Association \(WGCA\)](#), released on April 9, with three more receiving votes. Bethel is ranked No. 6 in NCAA Division III with St. Catherine ranked No. 13. Carleton, Gustavus, and St. Thomas all received votes in the most recent balloting.

TIDBITS FROM THE TEEBOX

Augsburg junior **Emma Kraft** has played in a team-high six rounds this spring, recording an average of 87.5 shots per round. That mark is currently ninth-best in a single season in program history, while her career average of 87.4 is third-best by an Augsburg women's golfer.

Bethel senior **Nicole Miller** opened the season with three straight medalist performances and was the runner-up at her fourth tournament of the year. Miller - who leads the conference with an average of 75.5 shots per round this season - is a three-time All-Conference honoree and has placed among the top-10 at the MIAC Championships each of the last two seasons.

Carleton junior **Kristin Miyagi** placed third individually at the Carleton/St. Olaf Spring Invitational last weekend. Miyagi - who tied for eighth-place at the 2019 MIAC Championships - had five birdies en route to a two-day score of 157 (80-77). The two-time All-MIAC honoree has recorded a pair of top-10 finishes this spring.

Concordia senior **Bailey Klause** has paced the Cobbers with an average of 87.6 shots over five rounds this spring. Five of the team's top-10 rounds in April belong to Klause, who opened last weekend's Carleton/St. Olaf Invite with a season-best score of 85.



Gustavus junior **Emily Kratz** has placed among the top-five at three of her four tournament appearances this spring. An All-MIAC selection in the spring of 2019, Kratz earned a fourth-place finish at Emerald Greens earlier in April with a two-day total of 156 (75-81), helping the Gusties to runner-up honors as a team.

Macalester junior **Tenley Smith** started off her 2020-21 season with a top-10 result at the Battle at the Creek on April 17-18. Smith shot a career-low 75 in the first round and finished with a two-day total of 162 (75-87), good for ninth place overall in the field of 79 golfers.

Saint Benedict senior **Emily Olson** is averaging a team-best 83 shots per round this season. An All-Championship Team honoree in 2018, Olson has placed among the top-15 golfers at each of the last two MIAC Championship meets.

St. Catherine first-year golfer **Jaycee Rhodes** paced the Wildcats to their third straight tournament win last weekend with individual medalist honors at the Carleton/St. Olaf Spring Invitational. Rhodes carded a career-low 155 (81-74) to register the second-ever outright individual win for St. Kate's and the program's first solo medalist since April 2014.

St. Olaf first-year golfer **Bergen Senf** tied for fourth-place at last weekend's Carleton/St. Olaf Spring Invitational. Senf carded rounds of 81 and 79 for a two-round total of 160. In three rounds this spring, Senf is averaging 81 shots per outing.

St. Thomas first-year golfer **Paige O'Neal** tied for seventh-place at her second collegiate meet earlier in April, totaling 161 shots (77-84) over two rounds at the Battle at the Creek meet on April 17-18. O'Neal's average of 84.7 shots per round leads the Tommies this season.