

# 2010 MIAC Women's Golf Championship Preview

9/29/2010  
ST. PAUL, Minn. – The 2010 Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Women’s Golf Championship will take place this weekend with the conference team championship on the line, as well as an automatic qualification into this spring’s NCAA Championships. Individual MIAC medalist honors will also be up for grabs at the three-day, 54-hole event, which will again be held Saturday, Sunday and Monday at Bunker Hills Golf Course in Coon Rapids, Minn., and will feature 10 women’s and 10 men’s teams.

Again in 2010, the conference championship conversation starts with Gustavus Adolphus College, winner of the last two MIAC titles and currently ranked No. 2 in NCAA Division III. The Gusties enter the 2010 Championships with three All-MIAC players back in their lineup, and four of the top seven individual scoring averages in the MIAC this season. Headlining that all-star cast is **Katie Schenfeld**, the 2009 MIAC Player-of-the-Year. Schenfeld is atop the individual leader board with an average of 78.3 strokes per round in 2010, and she has won two of the first three MIAC Athlete-of-the-Week awards this fall.

**Taylor Drenttel** and **Ann Jackson** – both All-MIAC selection in 2009 – also return to lead the way for 2009 MIAC Coach-of-the-Year **Scott Moe**. Jackson has the league’s fourth-best scoring average in 2010 at 82.3, and Drenttel is right on her heels in fifth at 82.4. **Kayleigh Dittes** deepens the talented Gustie lineup with the MIAC’s seventh-best scoring average at 84.6.

In the team competition, second-ranked Gustavus is the favorite again by the numbers with an average score of 327.2 per round, which is more than 12 shots better than the rest of the field. However, St. Olaf College (339.3), No. 25 Carleton College (350.2) and the College of Saint Benedict (350.6) will also be in the mix. The University of St. Thomas, Concordia College, Augsburg College, Saint Mary’s University, Macalester College and Bethel University will also be in competition at the MIAC meet.

Saint Benedict star **Kathryn Hauff** figures to be Schenfeld’s biggest obstacle en route to a repeat medalist finish. Hauff was an All-MIAC selection last season, as well as the recipient of the NCAA Division III Women’s Golf Elite 88 award, and this season she’s been just as good with the second-best stroke average in the conference (79.3) and the other MIAC Athlete-of-the-Week honor. Fellow Blazer Sarah Hupperts (85.5) will also be in the mix for All-Conference honors.

Another interesting storyline on the individual leader board will be the Knutson sibling rivalry. **Molly Knutson** from St. Olaf has the league’s third-best scoring average at 82.0 strokes per round, while her sister **Laura Knutson** – a Carleton golfer – is a returning All-MIAC golfer and enters this year’s championships with an average of 86.3.

The two sisters’ teammates are the other top contenders for medalist honors this weekend. St. Olaf’s **Molly Erickson** has an 82.7 scoring average and Vanessa Kleckner averages 86.0 strokes, while Carleton’s **Hope Kearney** boasts an 85.3 average after winning the 2009 Freshman-of-the-Year award. The other returning All-MIAC golfer is **Stefani Zappa** from Augsburg.

Last season, Saint Benedict was the runner-up to Gustavus, St. Thomas finished third, St. Olaf was fourth and Carleton rounded out the top five. The rest of the team finish, in order, was: Concordia, Augsburg, Saint Mary’s, Bethel and Macalester.

The 2010 MIAC Women’s Golf Championships will tee off at 11:28 a.m. on both Saturday and Sunday, and Monday’s final round will begin at 9 a.m. The women will play Bunker Hills’ North and East courses, while the men will play the East and West courses with identical starting times. For complete information, including scoring updates, official results, course information, history and more, visit the 2010 MIAC Golf Championships Web site.

[2010 MIAC Golf Championships Website](#)

| [2010 MIAC Schedule](#) | [2010 MIAC Statistics](#) | [MIAC Recordbook](#) | [MIAC Archives](#)

## Augsburg

**Coach:** Ted Vickerman (2nd season)  
**2009 Championship Finish:** 7th (54-Hole Total: 1092- +228)

| Augsburg Championship Preview |
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The Augsburg College women's golf team enters this weekend's MIAC championships with a chance to continue the process of improvement that the team has experienced over the last several seasons. Last year, head coach Ted Vickerman's Auggies tied their best-ever conference meet finish with a seventh-place effort, with their 1,092 score the team's best-ever 54-hole finish.

With a rescheduled dual meet on Thursday against Wisconsin-River Falls before the conference championships, the Auggies have a 382.0 team stroke average this fall -- currently the fourth-best team scoring average in school history.

Two Auggie golfers have earned All-MIAC honors during their careers -- seniors Stefani Zappa (SR, Minneapolis, Minn./Patrick Henry HS) and Johanna Frykmark (SR, Taby, Sweden/Rollingby Gymnasium HS) -- which makes prospects good for continued improvement this weekend for the team.

Both Zappa and Frykmark enter their final conference meets as two of the top golfers in the 17-year history of the Augsburg women's golf program. Zappa, who earned All-MIAC honors last year with an eighth-place individual finish, stands in third place in school history with an 89.36 career stroke average, and her 90.8 stroke average entering this week's action is the 13th-best single-season effort in program history.

Frykmark, who finished 10th at the 2007 conference meet and 16th at last year's event, has a 91.12 career stroke average, good for fifth-best in school history. She enters this week's action with a 91.8 stroke average this fall.

Senior Megan Dale (SR, Northfield, Minn.), who has shown improvement throughout her career, also enters her final MIAC championships this weekend. Dale has improved her season stroke average by 15 strokes from her first season to this fall. Sophomore Jill Ferguson (SO, Batavia, Ill.) returns to the Auggie lineup with a year's experience, having shown a nearly three-stroke improvement from last year to this year's average.

Ashley Lindemann (FY, Fargo, N.D./Fargo South HS), McKay Karl (FY, Belle Plaine, Minn.) and Margaret Hughes (FY, Mendota Heights, Minn./Cretin-Derham Hall HS) all have gained valuable experience in their first seasons of collegiate golf for the Auggies.

**Bethel**  
**Coach:** Trent Anderson (1st season)  
**2009 Championship Finish:** 9th (54-Hole Total: 110 - +246)

**Bethel Championship Preview**  
It has been a difficult season thus far for the Men's and Women's golf program at Bethel University.  
  
The women have most definitely had a year filled with much adversity and as a result working to manufacture a strong team has been very difficult. The leader of the team Paige Lemeux (junior) will come ready to post some strong scores in the MIAC Championship. The remaining cast with exception to Erica Dennis (junior) is young. They are all developing but are first year BU golfers and have a long way to go in order to be serious contenders for the MIAC Championship.

**Carleton**  
**Coach:** Eric Sieger (10th season)  
**2009 Championship Finish:** 5th (54-Hole Total: 1038 - +174)

**Carleton Championship Preview**

Carleton enters this year's MIAC Championships with an experienced roster full of hungry players looking to end its fall season on a high note.

After returning all five starters from last year's team that set a school record with a 343.6 team average, this year's the Knights have struggled at times and enter the conference tournament with a 350.2 team average. Still, that average ranks third in the conference and head coach Eric Sieger is banking on his team's depth and experience for a strong showing.

"Our weak point as a team in the past has been lack of depth," Sieger said. "But we head into this year's championships feeling like we're strong from the top to the bottom of our line-up." The Knights five players have combined for 11 MIAC Championships starts.

Leading this group is two-time All-MIAC player Laura Knutson (Sr./Edina, Minn.), who finished tied for second in 2008 and 10th in 2009. She's posted a trio of top-20 finishes in four starts this fall and ranks second on the team with an 86.3 stroke average.

Leading the Knights in stroke average is last year's conference rookie of the year, Hope Keaney (San Anselmo, Calif./Marin Catholic), at 85.3 with four top-20 finishes in the four fall events. She paced the Knights in stroke average last year and was the team's most valuable player and finished 15th at the 2009 MIAC Championships.

"For us to have a great finish this weekend, we need Laura and Hope to match the top players from the other contenders," Sieger said. "Laura has been playing some great golf lately and just needs to put together consecutive good rounds, and Hope has been solid but is really due for some low scores."

The Knights' depth and experience is in the form of seniors Louise Buckler (Blaine, Minn./St. Paul Academy) and Meghan Gajare (Kalamazoo, Mich./Portage Central) and junior Traci Johnson (Lakeville, Minn./Lakeville North). Buckler had a breakout season last year, taking an amazing eight shots off her sophomore-year average. Johnson matched Buckler's improvement last year, and both are coming off top-10 finishes at the CSB Fall Classic last week.

"This group of seniors has finished fifth twice and third, and I know they'd love to top that this weekend," Sieger said. "They've worked very hard this summer and fall, and we feel, as a group, we're on the cusp of playing some really good golf."

## **Concordia**

**Coach:** Duane Siverson (27th season)

**2009 Championship Finish:** 6th (54-Hole Total: 1072 - +208)

### **Concordia Championship Preview**

It has been an up-and-down interesting year for the Concordia-Moorhead women's golf team in 2010 and the Cobbers are hoping to finish on the upswing as they compete in the MIAC Championship Meet.

Concordia has participated in three meets this season as a team and had a pair of individuals participate in a fourth meet. The Cobbers are coming off one of their best meets of the year as they finished sixth at the St. Ben's Invite last weekend.

Concordia is led by sophomore Laura Ayers (Cottage Grove, Minn./Park of Cottage Grove HS) who has been the low Cobber in two of the four meets she has played in this season. Ayers currently leads the team with a 91.1 stroke average and has a season-best score of 86 which she shot at the annual Concordia Invitational. Joining Ayers as the only CC golfer to compete in four meets this year is senior Jeanna Kratzke (Perham, Minn.) who is coming off her best meet of the season. Kratzke carded a team-best 188 at last weekend's St. Ben's Invite. Like Ayers, she has also shot an 86 this season. That season-best round occurred at the Division III Midwest Classic.

The key for the Cobbers in 2010 will be to find three other golfers who can avoid the "blow-up" round and post consistent scores for three straight days. Freshman Emily Frosaker (Bemidji, Minn.), Allison Turnquist (So., Braham, Minn.) and Kelsey Lofstedt (Fr., Rushford, Minn./Rushford-Peterson HS) round out the top 5 for Concordia. Frosaker is averaging 93.7 shots per round this year and fired a season-best 89 in the opening meet of the year at the Jimmie Invitational.

## **Gustavus**

**Coach:** Scott Moe (8th season)

**2009 Championship Finish:** 1st (54-Hole Total: 968 - +104)

### **Gustavus Championship Preview**

The Gustavus women's golf team will look to three-peat as MIAC Team Champions at the 2010 MIAC Championship held Oct. 2-4 at Bunker Hills Golf Course in Coon Rapids, Minn. Despite the loss of three-time All-American Kali Griggs, head coach Scott Moe returns three of his top players from last season in Katie Schenfeld (Indianola, Iowa), Taylor Drenttel (Eagen, Minn.), and Ann Jackson (Fargo, N.D.). All three earned All-Conference honors by finishing in the top ten at the 2009 MIAC Championship, while Schenfeld and Drenttel were named NGCA All-Americans at the conclusion of last season.

Senior Katie Schenfeld enters as the top Gustavus golfer. The two-time NCGA All-American, three-time All-Conference performer, and reigning MIAC Champion, leads the Gusties with an 78.3 (+6) average per round. She has registered first place finishes at the Georgianni Memorial UWEC Invite on Sept. 4-5 and SMSU Mustang Invite on Sept. 26 so far this season. Ann Jackson enters with an 82.3 (+10) average, while Taylor Drenttel follows next in line with an 82.6 (+10). Jackson finished sixth and Drenttel finished third at the MIAC Championship last season. Coach Moe would like to see more consistency from his squad but feels it is in good position heading in the conference tournament. Adding depth will be Kayleigh Dittes (Eden Prairie, Minn.) (84.6 avg./per round), Rikka Holiday (Bozeman, Mont.) (87.6 avg./per round), Nicole Tetrault (Forest Lake, Minn.) (87.6 avg./per round), and Jessica Skaare (Blue Earth, Minn.) (96.5 avg./per round).

The Gusties have had their ups-and-downs this fall, however the team has still been quite competitive recording three top-three finishes in four tournaments. Gustavus placed second at the UW-Eau Claire Invite (665), third at both the Wartburg Fall Invitational (674) and SMSU Mustang Invite (637), and fifth at the O'Brien National Invitational (652). As a team, the Gusties are averaging 327.2 strokes per round, with a low round of 311.

### **Macalester**

**Coach:** Martha Nause (10th season)

**2009 Championship Finish:** 10th (54-Hole Total: 1211- +347)

### **Macalester Championship Preview**

The Scots could be stronger in the top half of their lineup than a year ago, as Caird and Maddie Arbisi (Fy., Stillwater, Minn.) will lead the way. Caird put together her best collegiate tournament ever placing ninth at the Concordia Invitational (88-82—170) and the following weekend took another big step forward when finishing fourth with a 164 scorecard at the Division 3 Midwest Classic on rounds of 79 and 85. Arbisi was Macalester's top golfer at the St. Benedict Inviational, placing 11th with a 175 (88-87). The Scots will also look for a solid three days of golf from the team's No. 3 player, Lora Hlavsa (So., New Ulm, Minn.).

Seeking to move up from last fall's 10th-place finish, the Scots will look for Grace Caird (So., Shorewood, Wis.) to lead the team forward at the 2010 MIAC tournament.

### **Saint Benedict**

**Coach:** Patrick Michaud (5th season)

**2009 Championship Finish:** 2nd (54-Hole Total: 1014 - +150)

### **Saint Benedict Championship Preview**

The College of Saint Benedict golf team returns to the MIAC Championship, site of their second place finish a year ago, while playing their best team golf of the season.

The Blazers have averaged an 18-hole team score 341.25 over their past four rounds leading them to third and second place finishes the previous two weekends. At the Division III Midwest Classic, Saint Benedict rode junior Kathryn Hauff's stellar play in shooting a team best 680 two day score. After an even par 72 opening round, Hauff easily outdistanced the competition in taking home medalist honors.

Looking to play spoiler while hosting the following weekend, Saint Benedict finished in second place while Hauff again took first place individually.

Returning only two veterans from the year before, Saint Benedict has been able to count on fantastic play from three Blazer rookies. Sophomore Karly Pratt has developed into a key contributor with her consistent play on the course. Pratt boasts an 92.6 average while recording three of her last four rounds in the 80s. First-year Jill Sampair has a 94.8 average including a career best 84 in her last round. Using putting as her strength, look for Sampair to tame Bunker's speedy greens. Junior Kristen Schulstad gives the Blazers a consistent player they can count on each round with her ability to stay out of trouble. Schulstad also recorded a career low round her previous tournament and appears ready for the MIAC.

Senior Sarah Hupperts has overcome a slow start to her season, recording her best two day score in her previous tournament. With an 85.5 average, look for Hupperts to use her length off the tee at the relatively short Bunker course.

Senior Kathryn Hauff has been the Blazers rock all season, boasting a 79.3 average and a perfect four top-three finishes in four tournaments played. Veteran poise and fabulous mid and short iron play should set Hauff up perfectly for a run at the individual championship.

Riding a hot streak coming into the championship, the Blazers know they will be able to count on all five teammates to keep that momentum going.

### **Saint Mary's**

**Coach:** Jeff Stangl (3rd season)

**2009 Championship Finish:** 8th (54-Hole Total: 1107 - +243)

#### **Saint Mary's Championship Preview**

Junior Gia Puch (Des Plaines, Ill.) turned a few heads at the 2009 Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championships, as the then-sophomore carded a Day 1 79 to share the opening-round lead.

Puch is back for another run at climbing the MIAC ladder, but when Katelyn Rizzi graduated following the 2009 season, the Cardinals lost the other half of their one-two punch, leaving Jeff Stangl to find a replacement.

Enter junior Rachel Lamberty (Farmington, Minn.).

Lamberty has been the perfect compliment to Puch, as the two have been the Cardinals' leaders all season — and Stangl expects more of the same at this year's conference championships.

"The ladies have been playing some pretty solid golf," said Stangl. "Hopefully everyone can play up to their potential — that's all you can ask for as a coach."

### **St. Olaf**

**Coach:** Luke Benoit (5th season)

**2009 Championship Finish:** 4th (54-Hole Total: 1035 - +171)

#### **St. Olaf Championship Preview**

The St. Olaf women's golf team has won each of its last two events, the Division III Midwest Classic and the College of Saint Benedict Invitational. The team victories were the first and second for fifth-year head coach Luke Benoit, who has his team playing very well.

The Oles have been paced by Molly Knutson, Molly Erickson and Vanessa Kleckner. Erickson finished second in each of the last two events while Knutson was third in each. Knutson has another top 10 finish to her credit. Both Knutson (82.0) and Erickson (82.7) have scoring averages near 82 and have posted low rounds - Erickson a pair of 77's and Knutson a pair of 80's. Kleckner finished seventh and sixth in the last two tournaments the team played in and is carrying a 86.0 scoring average.

### **St. Thomas**

**Coach:** Sara Evens (6th season)

**2009 Championship Finish:** 3rd (54-Hole Total: 1025 - +161)

#### **St. Thomas Championship Preview**

The 2010-2011 squad is young and looking for steady improvement as they gain more experience in college golf. Coach Sara Evens has no seniors, one junior (Shannon Richter), one sophomore (Cassy Norton) and four freshmen.

Richter had an 87.8 stroke average in 2009-2010, when the Tommies had the fourth-best stroke average in the MIAC. Freshman Emma Wilson placed 25th in the Wisconsin large-class state meet last spring. So far in eight fall rounds, Norton and Richter have a 91.0 stroke average and Wilson has an 93.2 average.

The Tommies graduated four seniors, led by All-American Laura Heck and All-MIAC player Amy Anderson, from a group that one two MIAC titles and made three NCAA Championships appearances in their era.