



***WE ARE THE MIAA***



*#BringYourAGame*



# WE BRING OUR 'A GAME' IN THE MIAA

When it comes to the nomenclature of intercollegiate athletics, most people refer to conferences as “athletics conferences” because they think only of the athletics competition between and among groups of schools.

We in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association however consider ourselves a higher education organization, because our members are committed to providing opportunities to students through athletics for personal growth, skill development and college graduation. That’s what higher education is about, and that’s what the MIAA is about.

Yes, we’re serious about our athletics – our record demonstrates that commitment – but we’re more serious about positioning our student-athletes for success in life beyond the playing fields and courts.

Members of the MIAA share the belief that competitive physical activities, conducted in a wholesome educational environment, have value for individuals, universities and communities. MIAA schools offer students a balanced experience through high academic expectations, a commitment to community engagement and rigorous athletics competition. The MIAA helps prepare students, through their athletics experience, to be productive citizens and to be leaders in their chosen professions.

In the MIAA, we like to say we bring our “A Game” in everything we do. Our student-athletes sure do – in the classroom, in competition, and in the community. And I know firsthand that all of the administrators, coaches and staff at our member schools and in our conference office bring their **A Games** every day to help our student-athletes be the best they can be.

That’s our promise in the MIAA. And we’re good to our word.

Mike Racy  
Commissioner

















# WHO WE ARE

The Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association is one of the nation's most historic conferences, founded in 1912. We feature 12 full member universities and two associate member universities in a four-state region (five in Missouri, five in Kansas, three in Oklahoma and one in Nebraska).

## MIAA MEMBERS

SCHOOL	LOCATION	FOUNDED	TYPE	ENROLLMENT	ALUMNI
 University of Central Missouri	Warrensburg, MO	1871	Public	14,148	95,000
 University of Central Oklahoma	Edmond, OK	1890	Public	16,428	80,000
 Emporia State University	Emporia, KS	1863	Public	5,887	60,000
 Fort Hays State University	Hays, KS	1902	Public	14,658	40,000
 Lincoln University	Jefferson City, MO	1866	Public	3,583	32,000
 Missouri Southern State University	Joplin, MO	1937	Public	6,229	30,000
 Missouri Western State University	St. Joseph, MO	1915	Public	5,388	25,000
 University of Nebraska at Kearney	Kearney, NE	1905	Public	7,504	40,000
 Northeastern State University	Tahlequah, OK	1909	Public	8,276	52,000
 Northwest Missouri State University	Maryville, MO	1905	Public	6,530	70,000
 Pittsburg State University	Pittsburg, KS	1903	Public	7,102	60,000
 Washburn University	Topeka, KS	1865	Public	7,971	40,000
 Newman University - Associate Member	Wichita, KS	1933	Private	1,126	20,000
 Rogers State University - Associate Member	Claremore, OK	1909	Public	4,300	20,000



# ***WE ARE HIGHER EDUCATION***

Our mission is to create opportunities for success through college athletics. We promote high standards for academic and athletic performance, as institutions help student-athletes reach their full potential as informed, productive citizens with a lifelong commitment to learning and service. Our 14 members are consistently ranked among the top academic universities in the Midwest. MIAA schools enroll more than 120,000 undergraduate students annually and support more than 5,000 student-athletes every year!



# WE ARE WINNERS

The MIAA is also one of the NCAA's most successful conferences, winning 35 NCAA team championships and more than 300 individual national championships over the past four decades.

MIAA institutions feature some of the best athletics facilities, most innovative coaches and most dedicated student-athletes in the country. The MIAA stages conference championship events at some of the most iconic sporting venues in the country, including Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City and the ASA Softball Complex in Oklahoma City.

## THE MIAA — A HISTORY OF NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

1984	Southeast Missouri	Men's Cross Country	2013	Central Oklahoma	Softball
1984	Central Missouri	Women's Basketball	<b>2013</b>	<b>Northwest Missouri</b>	<b>Football</b>
1984	Central Missouri	Men's Basketball	2014	Central Missouri	Men's Basketball
1985	Southeast Missouri	Men's Indoor Track & Field	2014	Lincoln	Women's Outdoor Track & Field
1991	Pittsburg State	Football	2015	Central Missouri	Women's Indoor Track & Field
1992	Missouri Southern	Softball	2015	Central Missouri	Women's Outdoor Track & Field
1994	Central Missouri	Baseball	<b>2015</b>	<b>Northwest Missouri</b>	<b>Football</b>
<b>1998</b>	<b>Northwest Missouri</b>	<b>Football</b>	2016	Lincoln	Women's Indoor Track & Field
1999	Northwest Missouri	Football	2016	Pittsburg State	Women's Outdoor Track & Field
2003	Central Missouri	Baseball	<b>2016</b>	<b>Northwest Missouri</b>	<b>Football</b>
2005	Washburn	Women's Basketball	2017	Northwest Missouri	Men's Basketball
2009	Nebraska-Omaha	Wrestling	2017	McKendree	Women's Bowling
2009	Northwest Missouri	Football	<b>2017</b>	<b>Central Missouri</b>	<b>Women's Soccer</b>
2010	Nebraska-Omaha	Wrestling	2018	Pittsburg State	Men's Indoor Track and Field
2010	Emporia State	Women's Basketball	2018	Central Missouri	Women's Basketball
2011	Nebraska-Omaha	Wrestling	2018	Central Oklahoma	Women's Rowing
2011	Pittsburg State	Football	2018	Lincoln	Women's Indoor Track & Field
2013	Nebraska-Kearney	Wrestling			<i><b>Bold indicates undefeated teams</b></i>



# WE ARE COMMUNITY

There are more than 700,000 alumni throughout the world from MIAA member schools. Some of the Midwest's most successful corporate and civic leaders are MIAA graduates and former student-athletes.

The Association's office has been headquartered in Kansas City for the past 25 years. The new office is located in Hy-Vee Arena, home to the nation's only multi-level youth sports complex. The MIAA offers strategic partnership opportunities, which connect Kansas City businesses and corporations with higher education decision-makers and passionate sports fans in the four-state region.



**NOTABLE MIAA ALUMNI PICTURED:**

**Dr. James Frank (top left)**  
First African American President of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)  
Lincoln University

**Jodi Hoos (bottom left)**  
Judge, 10th Judicial Circuit Peoria County, IL  
University of Nebraska at Kearney

**Jim Crane (center)**  
Owner and Chairman of the Houston Astros  
University of Central Missouri

**Jerry Schemmel (right)**  
Radio Broadcaster for the MLB Colorado Rockies  
Washburn University

# WE ARE DIVISION II

The MIAA is a proud longstanding member of NCAA Division II, which promotes and supports a balanced and inclusive approach in which student-athletes learn and develop through their desired academic pursuits, in civic engagement with their communities and in athletics competition. Division II believes in giving student-athletes the unique opportunity to compete in the classroom, on the field, in their career, for their causes, and on their terms.





# ***WE ARE MIAA STRONG...***

## **...IN THE CLASSROOM**

Because we are a higher education organization, the MIAA demands a student-first approach, with degree completion and preparation for life after college as our primary goals. The numbers support our success, as the MIAA annually ranks among the leading Division II conferences in student-athlete graduation rates.

We continually recognize and celebrate our student-athletes' academic achievement through our Academic Honor Roll, Scholar-Athlete Awards, Academic Excellence Awards and Institutional Academic Awards. We also provide grants to our members to help student-athletes achieve their academic goals.

## **MIAA ACADEMIC SUCCESS BY THE NUMBERS**

In 2017-18...

- ◆ More than 2,500 student-athletes were named to the MIAA Academic Honor Roll (GPAs of 3.0 or higher).
- ◆ 78 freshman and incoming student-athletes achieved Academic Excellence recognition (first two semesters with 4.0 GPA).
- ◆ 30 freshman and incoming student-athletes achieved Scholar Athlete status (first two semesters with 3.5 GPA and all-MIAA or all-region recognition in team sports; national qualification in individual sports).
- ◆ Five NCAA Elite 90 honorees in 2017-18 (awarded to the student-athlete with the highest GPA among all student-athletes competing at their sport's finals).



## ...IN COMPETITION

The MIAA sponsors 19 sports, ten for men and nine for women. And just as our student-athletes excel academically, they are champions in competition as well, claiming 22 NCAA national team championships in the past 10 years alone.



## MIAA SPORTS

### MEN

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Football
- Golf
- Soccer
- Tennis
- Indoor Track & Field
- Outdoor Track & Field
- Wrestling

### WOMEN

- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Golf
- Soccer
- Softball
- Tennis
- Indoor Track & Field
- Outdoor Track & Field
- Volleyball



# ***WE ARE MIAA STRONG...***

## **...IN HOW WE GOVERN OURSELVES**

The MIAA offers an inclusive governance approach, with university presidents and chancellors at the helm and representation from all members' athletics directors, senior woman administrators and faculty athletics representatives throughout our committee structure.

In addition to the strategic leadership from our CEO Council (presidents and chancellors), Institutional Representatives Council (ADs, SWAs, FARs), Athletic Administrators Committee and Faculty Athletics Representative Committee, the MIAA receives valued input and direction from the following groups:

- ◆ Coaches Groups
- ◆ MIAA Risk Management Task Force
- ◆ Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
- ◆ Championships & Officiating Committee
- ◆ Basketball Tournament Committee
- ◆ Awards Committee
- ◆ Hall of Fame Committee
- ◆ Compliance Administrators
- ◆ Communications Directors
- ◆ Sports Medicine Professionals
- ◆ MIAA Membership Task Force
- ◆ MIAA Football Task Force





## ...IN OUR COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING STUDENT-ATHLETES

The MIAA allows its member schools to offer the NCAA maximums in athletics-based financial aid in all 19 sports we sponsor.

As members of NCAA Division II, our student-athletes are able to supplement their athletics-based aid with academic and merit-based grants and scholarships to complete their financial package.

MIAA members commit to a culture of compliance in which all members of the athletics department collaborate to provide a competitive experience based on fairness, integrity, and playing by the rules.



# WE ARE MIAA STRONG...

## ...IN OUR STUDENT-ATHLETE VOICE



We are proud of our MIAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee composed of two representatives per MIAA member school. Our SAAC works diligently and effectively as a communication liaison between the national Division II SAAC (which includes an MIAA SAAC representative) and the SAACs at all 14 of our member schools.

The MIAA SAAC also is cutting edge in its own initiatives, including fundraising efforts for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Team IMPACT, recognizing faculty members, and ensuring active participation in governance and in professional development.

The MIAA SAAC also is proud of its participation in the Division II Award of Excellence initiative, an annual competition among NCAA Division II conferences to create the most compelling community engagement initiative that exemplifies the core Division II attributes of learning, balance, resourcefulness, sportsmanship, passion and service.



## MIAA SAAC INITIATIVES

### ◆ SAAC Cup

Annual competition among institutional SAACs in which points are awarded for fundraising efforts, participation in institutional and conference SAAC meetings, participation in NCAA governance, and engagement with communities.

### ◆ Mentor of the Year

Annual recognition of a faculty member or other campus official who has had a profound impact on the lives of student-athletes.

### ◆ WE CARE

A comprehensive learning and development initiative that compels MIAA member schools to support student-athletes in six core areas:

- ◆ Wellness
- ◆ Athletics
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Respect
- ◆ Compassion
- ◆ Engagement



## ...IN WHAT WE OFFER OUR MEMBERS

Membership in the MIAA comes with a bevy of benefits, including:

- Stability that comes with more than a century as an intercollegiate athletics association.
- Conference schedules for 14 sports.
- Supervisors of officials for baseball, men's basketball, women's basketball, football, women's soccer, softball, and women's volleyball.
- Assignment and payment of officials for regular-season contests for baseball, men's basketball, women's basketball, football, women's soccer, softball, women's volleyball, and wrestling.
- Assignment and payment of officials for postseason contests for baseball, men's basketball, women's basketball, football, women's soccer, softball, women's volleyball, and wrestling.
- Corporate sponsorships for league events and select conference championships.
- History of securing grants for league initiatives.
- MIAA Strategic Plan Census Tool.
- Biennial MIAA salary survey.
- Ball adoption agreements with Wilson (basketball, football, soccer and baseball).
- Enhanced sports coverage through the MIAA Network.
- Expanding social media presence.
- MIAA Women in Sports Forum.
- Professional development grants.
- Involvement and representation within the NCAA Division II governance structure.
- Officiating development initiatives.
- Funding of various league-wide ancillary group meetings (i.e., communication directors, athletic trainers, compliance administrators, etc.).

## THE MIAA NETWORK

The MIAA Network is the official digital streaming network of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association that showcases the academic and athletics success of the conference and its 14 member institutions.

- The MIAA Network offers both pay-per-view content in football, men's and women's basketball, and women's volleyball and free-to-view content in all other sports.
- MIAA Network games may be watched on smart televisions like Amazon Fire, Roku and Apple TV.
- Every MIAA conference championship is broadcast exclusively on The MIAA Network.



## ***IN THE MIAA, WE CARE***

The MIAA cares about its student-athletes. Nothing illustrates this more than the WE CARE initiative the MIAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee oversees to provide a comprehensive program of learning and development, which is at the heart of the MIAA student-athlete experience.

Each letter in WE CARE represents a “pillar,” or focal area in which MIAA institutions commit to developing students who are prepared to be successful in college and after graduation:

### **WELLNESS**

We care about student-athlete wellness, with a focus on health and well-being. The MIAA expects student-athletes to make informed decisions that protect and enhance their health and fitness. The MIAA promotes an environment in which student-athletes are open to seeking help or assistance when wellness issues need to be addressed.

### **EDUCATION**

We care about providing student-athletes with educational opportunities in their chosen curricula and support their path to graduation. The MIAA expects student-athletes to be successful in their educational goals and be aware of campus resources to help them achieve these goals.

## COMPASSION

We care about developing student-athletes who demonstrate a capacity for compassion, and we provide opportunities for them to serve others and engage in their community. The MIAA expects student-athletes to think beyond themselves, be good role-models and serve those with need.

## ATHLETICS

We care about student-athlete skill development, and opportunities to excel and achieve in their chosen sport. The MIAA provides outstanding coaches, state-of-the-art facilities and nationally competitive programs. The MIAA expects student-athletes to take advantage of these resources to achieve their athletics goals.

## RESPECT

We care about promoting a culture in which student-athletes respect their teachers, students, coaches, administrators, teammates, opponents and officials. The MIAA expects student-athletes to demonstrate behavior that is appropriate as part of an activity sponsored by a higher education institution.

## ENGAGEMENT

We care about student-athlete engagement at their institution and in their community. Engagement and involvement are the keys to success for college students. The MIAA expects student-athletes to take advantage of the many activities, clubs, events and leadership programs offered on their campus and in their community.

The MIAA SAAC takes a leadership role in working with institutional SAACs to ensure that these “pillars for success” are being discussed and enhanced on each campus.





## **MIAA MEMBERS PRODUCE:**

- **SCHOLAR ATHLETES—CLASSROOM CHAMPIONS**
- **DEDICATED ATHLETES—NATIONAL CHAMPIONS**
- **SERVANT ATHLETES—COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS**