



**Awards**

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## NCCAA National Award Program

The National Awards Program is conducted under the guidance of the Director of Member Relations. The Director of Member relations is empowered to appoint members, including the chair, of the committees needed to conduct the selection of recipients for the association awards. The Board of Directors is sensitive to the desire of the sponsoring foundations, sports groups or other individuals or bodies with a genuine interest in the awards process. Thus, deference is practiced in all committee selections. The approved NCCAA National Awards include the following:

[Sports Ministries Award](#)

[Meritorious Service Award](#)

[John and Jody Wheeler Ministry Scholarship](#)

[Jack and Amy Strong Ministry Scholarship](#)

[Wilhelmi-Haskell Stewardship Award](#)

[Hall of Fame Award](#)

[All-American Awards](#)

[Coach of the Year Award](#)

[Heart of Courage Award](#)

[Presidential Award](#)

[Student-Athlete of the Week Awards](#)

Individual Sport Awards: [M Soccer I](#), [W Soccer I](#), [M Basketball](#), [W Basketball](#), [W Volleyball I](#), [Baseball](#), [M Cross Country](#), [W Cross Country](#), [M & W Track & Field](#)

### **Sports Ministries Award**

The NCCAA has established the Sports Ministries Award for the purpose of recognizing member institutions having significant spiritual outreach through the utilization of athletic ministries. All institutions wishing to be considered for this award should send a detailed summary of their outreach ministries program to the Director of Member Relations by March 25 of each year. The Director of Member Relations shall choose the recipient of this award. The award is given to a representative of the institution at the Annual Convention. See [Appendix A](#).

### **Meritorious Service Award**

Individuals who, over a period of years, exhibit a dedication and special service to the NCCAA shall be considered for the Meritorious Service Award. Their effort must have made a significant contribution to the welfare of the association and be so recognized by the participating colleges as a whole. Examples of persons qualifying for the Meritorious Service Award are: Board of Directors, National Sport Chairs, Regional Sport Chairs, and others whose service to the NCCAA is exceptional. This award is presented at the Annual Convention.

### **John and Jody Wheeler Ministry Scholarship**

Named for the founder of the NCCAA Pro-Am, John Wheeler and his wife, Jody, this award was established through the fund raising endeavors of the Pro-Am. Each foursome in the college tournament round at the NCCAA Pro-Am represents an NCCAA member institution. The institution that is represented by the winning foursome is the recipient of a \$3,000 scholarship to be awarded to a student for the next school year who is a Christian ministries or missions major. Criteria for choosing a student to receive this scholarship include: participation in athletics; participation in ministry in home church, school, community and the world; academic proficiency; and financial need.

### **Jack and Amy Strong Ministry Scholarship**

This award was named for the previous chairman of the NCCAA Pro-Am, Jack Strong, and his wife, Amy. The institution that is represented by the second place foursome in the college tournament round is the recipient of a \$2,000 scholarship to be awarded to a student for the next school year who is a Christian ministries or missions major. Criteria for choosing a student to receive this scholarship include: participation in athletics; participation in ministry in home church, school, community and the world; academic proficiency; and financial need.

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## **Wilhelmi-Haskell Stewardship Award**

Named for NCCAA founders, Norm Wilhelmi and E.C. Haskell, the Wilhelmi-Haskell Stewardship Award is awarded to individuals who, over a period of years, have exhibited dedicated work and loyal support of the NCCAA program and ministry. The recipient is recommended by the Executive Director, Director of Member Relations or Director of Community Relations. This award is presented at the Annual Convention. See [Appendix B](#).

## **Hall of Fame Award**

The purpose of the Hall of Fame Award is to recognize individuals who have given outstanding leadership and/or service to the NCCAA. The criteria for selection are as follows:

1. An individual with at least five years of involvement with the NCCAA.
2. An individual of high moral character and Christian integrity.
3. An individual presently making a positive contribution by serving the Lord and society.
4. An individual maintaining a continued interest in Christian higher education and intercollegiate athletics.

The selection committee is comprised of the Executive Director and selected Hall of Fame members.

Nominations shall be mailed to the membership by March 25 of each year. Nomination form, five letters of support, and biographic sketch are to be returned to the National Office no later than a date named each year. The selection committee shall select inductees annually. No more than three inductees shall be selected each year. Inductees shall be notified of their selection via telephone and letter. Those who are selected shall be inducted at the Annual Convention. See [Appendix B](#).

## **All-American**

The NCCAA grants All-American status to deserving student-athletes who participate in sports sponsored by the association. Criteria, procedure and method of selection shall rest with the selection committee of the sport. Approval of each program rests with the officers of each sport. See individual sport sections for more information.

## **Coach of the Year**

All sports that conduct a National Championship have the opportunity of selecting a Coach of the Year. Criteria and method of selection shall be recommended by the coaches within each sport. See individual sport sections for more information.

## **Heart of Courage Award**

The purpose of this award is to recognize a Christian athlete who has also shown courage in the midst of difficult circumstances, while at the same time inspiring others to live out their faith. This award shall be given on a “when appropriate” basis and shall be presented at the Annual Convention. See [Appendix C](#).

## **Presidential Award**

The NCCAA presents an annual All-Sports Award to one Division I and one Division II member institution. Points are earned based upon a team’s finish in an NCCAA National Championship. At least 33% of the division’s membership must sponsor that sport in order for it to be eligible for the point system. An award shall be presented to the institution with the most points in each Division at the Annual Convention. See [Appendix D](#).

## **Student-Athlete of the Week Awards**

The NCCAA Student-Athlete of the Week award shall be given to one male and one female athlete in both Division I and Division II, chosen from the list of nominees submitted by all recognized sports each week. See [Forms & Procedures Section](#).

## **NCCAA Kyle Rote Jr. National Player of the Year Award**

This award was established to enhance the Christian purpose of athletics, excellence in Christian athletic competition, and to perpetuate the Christian philosophy and faith in the NCCAA institutions across the nation. It is

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presented to the outstanding NCCAA Christian men's soccer player (Division I) of the nation, who meets the established criteria, during the National Men's Soccer I Championship. See [Men's Soccer I Section](#).

#### **NCCAA Michelle Akers Award**

This award was established to enhance the Christian purpose of athletics, excellence in Christian athletic competition, and to perpetuate the Christian philosophy and faith in the NCCAA institutions across the nation. The recipient of the award shall be the outstanding Christian female soccer player in the nation during the National Women's Soccer Championship. See [Women's Soccer Section](#).

#### **Pete Maravich Memorial Award**

This award was established to enhance the Christian purpose of athletic excellence in Christian athletic competition, and to perpetuate the Christian philosophy and faith in evangelical Christian colleges and universities across our nation. It shall be presented to the outstanding Christian basketball player in the NCCAA for each of Divisions I and II. See Men's Basketball Section, [Divisions I](#) and [II](#).

#### **Kathy Freese Player of the Year Award**

The purpose of this award is to enhance the Christian purpose of athletic excellence in Christian athletic competition, and to perpetuate the Christian philosophy and faith in evangelical Christian institutions across our nation. The recipient shall be the outstanding Christian women's basketball player in the nation. See Women's Basketball Section, [Division I](#) and [II](#).

#### **Susan R. Hellings Award**

The purpose of this award is to honor, each year, the outstanding women's volleyball player selected from the NCCAA member institutions. See [Women's Volleyball Division I Section](#).

#### **Unlimited Potential's Outstanding Christian Leadership Award**

The purpose of this award is to honor the NCCAA's Outstanding Christian Baseball Player of the Year with potential to Christian service through baseball. See [Baseball Section](#).

#### **Wheeler Cross Country Award for Men**

The award was established in order to enhance excellence in Christian cross country competition and to perpetuate the Christian philosophy and faith as exemplified through Christ-like cross country participation in NCCAA member institutions. See [Cross Country Section](#).

#### **Ray Bullock Cross Country Award for Women**

The award was established in order to enhance excellence in Christian cross country competition and to perpetuate the Christian philosophy and faith as exemplified through Christ-like cross country participation in NCCAA member institutions. See [Cross Country Section](#).

#### **Wheeler Track and Field Awards**

The awards were established in order to enhance excellence in Christian track and field competition and to perpetuate the Christian philosophy and faith as exemplified through Christ-like track and field participation in NCCAA member institutions. See [Men's and Women's Track and Field Sections](#).

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## **NCCAA Approved Awards**

### **I. TEAM AWARDS SUPPLIED AND PAID FOR BY THE NATIONAL OFFICE**

- A. The following National Championship team awards are presented in Baseball (I & II), Men's Basketball (I & II), Women's Basketball (I & II), Men's and Women's Cross Country, Men's Golf, Men's Soccer (I & II), Women's Soccer (I & II), Men's and Women's Tennis, Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field, Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field, and Women's Volleyball (I & II):
1. Championship Team Member Awards
  2. National Championship Banner (48" x 72")
  3. National Second Place Plaque (14" x 10")
  4. National Third Place Plaque (14" x 10")
  5. National Fourth Place Plaque (14" x 10")
- B. The following National Invitational awards are presented in Football and Men's and Women's Cross Country (II):  
National Invitational Banner (48" x 72")

### **II. INDIVIDUAL AWARDS SUPPLIED AND PAID BY THE NATIONAL OFFICE**

- A. Coach of the Year - plaque
- B. Outstanding Player of the National Championship – plaque or trophy as designated
- C. All-American First Team - Plaques
- D. National Championship Team Members - medallions
- E. Student-Athlete of the Week - certificate and t-shirt for each recipient

### **III. SPECIAL AWARDS SUPPLIED BY REGION AND/OR HOST INSTITUTIONS**

For each sanctioned sport, the following awards shall be ordered through the National Office by the Regional and/or National Sport Chair:

1. Regional Champion - team banner, paid by Region and sent to Region Chair
2. All-Regional Team - individual certificates, provided by National Office to Region Chair
3. Regional Coach of the Year – certificate, provided by National Office to Region Chair

### **IV. AWARDS SUPPLIED BY CHAMPIONSHIP HOST**

All Tournament Team – plaques. The number is approved by sport and must be ordered through the NCCAA Licensed Vendor.

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## Appendix A Sport Ministries Award Application

Name of Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Athletics Director \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Please summarize your institution's spiritual outreach endeavors below (print or type). Use additional pages if needed.

1. Description of ministries:

2. Location of ministries:

3. Dates of the ministries:

4. Person(s) responsible:

5. Person(s) involved in the ministries (student-athletes, coaches, etc.):

6. Group(s) ministered to:

This application and any other supporting data should be sent to the National Office, postmarked by March 25.

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## Appendix B NCCAA Hall of Fame Nomination Form

The purpose of the Hall of Fame Award is to recognize individuals who have given outstanding leadership and/or service to the NCCAA. The criteria for selection is as follows:

5. An individual with at least five years of involvement with the NCCAA.
6. An individual of high moral character and Christian integrity.
7. An individual presently making a positive contribution by serving the Lord and society.
8. An individual maintaining a continued interest in Christian higher education and intercollegiate athletics.

The selection committee is comprised of the Administration Committee of the Board of Directors.

Nominations shall be mailed to the membership by March 25 of each year. Nomination form, five letters of support and biographic sketch are to be returned to the National Office no later than a date named each year. The selection committee shall meet once annually to select the inductees. No more than five inductees shall be selected each year. Selectees shall be notified of their selection via telephone and letter. Those who are selected shall be inducted at the Annual Convention. See [Appendix B](#).

The nomination form, five letters of support and a biographical sketch of the nominee should be submitted by the nominator in one complete packet and mailed to the NCCAA National Office. The nomination packet should be postmarked by March 25.

*Please print or type*

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Institution/Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

**Enclosed are five letters of support and the biographical sketch.**

Name of Nominator \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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## **Appendix C Heart of Courage Award**

### **I. CRITERIA**

This award shall be given on a “when appropriate” basis to a player fitting the following criteria:

1. A current player on an NCCAA team.
2. Has exemplary Christian character.
3. Has shown courage in the midst of difficult circumstances in such a way as to inspire others.

### **II. SELECTION**

A National Sport Committee shall nominate a recipient on the above criteria. The Director of Member Relations shall ratify the nomination.

### **III. AWARD**

A plaque shall be given to the recipient(s) at the Annual Convention.

### **IV. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this award is to recognize a Christian athlete who has also shown courage in the midst of difficult circumstances, while at the same time inspiring others to live out their faith. God Himself puts a premium on perseverance and endurance. It is our desire to encourage those who are doing just that in unusual circumstances, and to say thank you for truly reminding us of our Living Hope.

### **V. HONOREE**

The award itself was inspired by the courage of Kathy Stewart of Kentucky Christian College.

On May, 7, 1998, Kathy Stewart was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor. This diagnosis was followed by six months of physical problems and fruitless efforts to find the cause. During the summer of 1998, Kathy underwent two surgeries to remove the tumor, a series of radiation treatments, and two months of recovery. She returned to school in mid-September, made up her class work and proceeded to play basketball her senior year. Physically, Kathy struggled, but spiritually she gave God praise for His mercy and support during her ordeal. Throughout Kathy’s illness, she constantly lifted others up with her positive outlook and her bubbling spirit. Though struggling herself, her greatest concern was for her family.

On February 18, 2000, Kathy lost her battle to cancer, but won the victory in Jesus for her eternity. She was a model student-athlete and an inspiration for all in the way she lived out her faith. All who knew Kathy were challenged to do the same.

## Appendix D NCCAA Presidential Award

The NCCAA is pleased to present an annual All-Sports Award to one Division I and one Division II member institution. Points are earned based upon a team's finish in an NCCAA National Championship. At least 33% of the division's membership must sponsor that sport in order for it to be eligible for the point system. Softball, cross country, indoor track & field, track & field, golf, and tennis serve as "uni-division" championships in which either division is eligible for points. Currently, Division I sports include golf (m), volleyball (w), soccer (m & w), cross country (m & w), indoor track & field (m & w), basketball (m & w), softball, track & field (m & w), tennis (m & w), and baseball; Division II sports include soccer (m & w), volleyball (w), basketball, and baseball in addition to the "uni-division" championships. An award shall be presented to the institution with the most points in each Division at the Annual Convention.

National Sport Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Sport \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sport \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### POINT SYSTEM

#### Division I – National Championship Placement      Points Earned

1 <sup>st</sup> _____	12
2 <sup>nd</sup> _____	9
3 <sup>rd</sup> _____	8
4 <sup>th</sup> _____	6
5 <sup>th</sup> _____	5
6 <sup>th</sup> _____	4
7 <sup>th</sup> _____	3
8 <sup>th</sup> _____	1

#### Division II – National Championship Placement      Points Earned

1 <sup>st</sup> _____	12
2 <sup>nd</sup> _____	9
3 <sup>rd</sup> _____	8
4 <sup>th</sup> _____	6
5 <sup>th</sup> _____	5
6 <sup>th</sup> _____	4
7 <sup>th</sup> _____	3
8 <sup>th</sup> _____	1