

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



**Mission Statement,  
History & Philosophy**

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## Mission Statement

The NCCAA is an association of Christ-centered collegiate institutions whose mission is to use athletic competition as an integral component of education, evangelism and encouragement.

We serve our members by setting association standards, developing communication resources, providing regional/national competition and partnering in outreach to our communities and the world.

We are committed to equipping student-athletes and coaches to make a positive impact for Christ.

## History & Philosophy

The NCCAA was incorporated to provide a Christian-based organization that functions uniquely as a national and international agency for the promotion of outreach and ministry and for the maintenance, enhancement and promotion of intercollegiate athletic competition with a Christian perspective.

Established in 1968 in Canton, Ohio, the NCCAA held its first men's basketball tournament in Detroit, Michigan in 1968. At the initial tournament, the NCCAA adopted a constitution and voted to move the national headquarters to Chattanooga, Tennessee upon the invitation of the Chamber of Commerce. In 1989, the Board of Directors voted to move the National Office to Marion, Indiana. As the NCCAA grew in membership and national appeal, the Board of Directors examined the need for relocation to a larger corporate community. In May 2000, the NCCAA officially moved the National Office to Greenville, South Carolina.

In 1973, the NCCAA launched into other sports, developing national competition in cross country, track and field and men's soccer. Bible colleges, which had competed well against liberal arts colleges, submitted a plan to add a second division. Division II basketball was developed in 1975 for the Bible colleges (non-scholarship), along with national competition in wrestling. Over the years, national championship competition in several other sports began: women's basketball, men's and women's volleyball, softball, men's golf, women's soccer, men's and women's tennis, baseball, football and indoor track and field.

Four executive directors have led the NCCAA during its existence: E.C. Haskell (1970-88 in Chattanooga, TN); Dr. Barry R. May (1988-97 in Marion, IN); Rob Miller (1997-1999 in Marion, IN); and Dan Wood (2000-present in Greenville, SC). Under their leadership much growth and change has occurred within the association. The membership has grown to approximately 100 Christ-centered colleges and universities and the mission has gone far beyond just winning a tournament.

Today, each of the 23 national championships and invitationals are required to hold a Christian Service Project (CSP) during the championship event. CSPs are opportunities in which NCCAA student-athletes and coaches go out into a championship host's community and serve others. Some CSPs have included visiting children's hospitals, serving the Salvation Army, Boy's and Girl's Clubs, Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, reading to children in public schools, doing yard work around the community, writing soldiers overseas, working in food projects, visiting the elderly in nursing homes, and much more. Tens of thousands of hours have been given to communities across the nation through the NCCAA.

The NCCAA game plan is to produce true winners: a game plan that will carry an individual through his or her entire life. The game plan is devised to draw out the student-athlete's greatest potential – body, mind and spirit.

This game plan is catching on virtually all over the United States. Since its first tournament in 1968, the NCCAA has grown to encompass over 100 Christian colleges nationwide, both liberal arts and Bible colleges. The participating schools are dedicated not only to providing the best athletic competition possible, but also to exemplifying Jesus Christ in all they do.

The NCCAA believes:

- That athletics are a means to an end, not an end in themselves.
- That the process is as important as the performance.
- That the person (student-athlete) is more important than the program

Athletic participation in a Christian liberal arts or Bible college is a unique experience that prepares Christian men and women for a life of meaningful work and service. The athletic experience provides a dynamic growth process for learning discipline, team work, leadership, and mutual respect where the student-athlete and his/her preparation for life is more important to the coaches and the athletic administration than win-loss records and championships.