

The National Tenpin Coaches Association Preseason Poll

October 13, 2021

Nebraska Cornhuskers #1 in Preseason Poll

HAROGATE, TN---Defending national champion Nebraska tops the 2021-22 pre-season poll conducted by the National Ten Pin Coaches Association (NTCA). The Cornhuskers garnered 34 of the poll's 50 first-place votes to finish ahead of McKendree, Arkansas State, Vanderbilt and North Carolina A&T in the poll's top five.

Nebraska returns national Player of the Year Crystal Elliott along with All-Americans Kayla Verstraete and Cassidy Ray for Coach Paul Klempa, last year's national Coach of the Year.

McKendree, which pulled down seven first-place votes, also returns a trio of accomplished returnees. Senior Hope Gramly was a first-team NTCA All-America pick a year ago along with Division II/III Player of the Year honors. She is joined on the Bearcats roster by junior Maranda Pattison and sophomore Isabel Allen, both of whom earning All-America mention last season.

Arkansas State reached the national championship match a year ago and is third in the pre-season voting. The Red Wolves had one first place vote and are headlined by junior Faith Welch, a junior who was a 2021 first-team All-America. Veterans Sarah Sanes and Emma Stull also return.

Vanderbilt won the Southland Bowling League last year and has 100 percent of its production back this season. Junior Mabel Cummins, a second team All-American, and veteran Samantha Gainor head an otherwise young but experienced Commodore team.

North Carolina A&T has been tabbed as the pre-season favorite in the MEAC this year after its stellar campaign a year ago. A pair of third-team NTCA All-Americans, senior Erica Quesada and sophomore Melanie Katen, head the Aggies lineup.

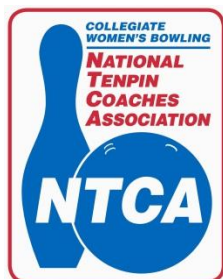
Sam Houston State came in sixth in the polling, with Youngstown State seventh, Fairleigh Dickinson eighth and Louisiana Tech ninth, each with a first-place vote. Stephen F. Austin rounds out the Top 10.

Duquesne, Sacred Heart, Mount St. Mary's, Delaware State and Maryville (Ill.) head the second 10 with Tulane, Central Missouri, Lincoln Memorial, Monmouth, and Maryland Eastern Shore, which elected to sit out last year's Covid-19 season, complete the Top 20.

Wisconsin-Whitewater, Prairie View A & M, Long Island, Marian and Adelphi round out the Top 25.

Voting is done by NCAA head coaches that are members of the NTCA with 50 ballots cast.

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	1st Place Votes	Overall Points	Previously Ranked
1 University of Nebraska, <i>Lincoln, NE</i>	34	1,817	1
2 McKendree University, <i>Lebanon, IL</i>	7	1,694	3
3 Arkansas State University, <i>Jonesboro, AR</i>	1	1,594	2
4 Vanderbilt University, <i>Nashville, TN</i>	2	1,544	4
5 North Carolina A&T, <i>Greensboro, NC</i>		1,371	6
6 Sam Houston State University, <i>Huntsville, TX</i>		1,229	7
7 Youngstown State, <i>Youngstown, OH</i>	1	1,191	5
8 Fairleigh Dickinson University, <i>Teaneck, NJ</i>	1	1,186	8
9 Louisiana Tech University, <i>Ruston, LA</i>	1	1,123	9
10 Stephen F. Austin State University, <i>Nacogdoches, TX</i>		901	14
11 Duquesne University, <i>Pittsburgh, PA</i>		862	11
12 Sacred Heart University, <i>Fairfield, CT</i>		847	10
13 Mount Saint Mary's University, <i>Emmitsburg MD</i>		751	12
14 Delaware State University, <i>Dover, DE</i>		687	13
15 Maryville University, <i>St. Louis, MO</i>		492	15
16 Tulane University, <i>New Orleans, LA</i>		470	16
17 University of Central Missouri, <i>Warrensburg, MO</i>		373	19
18 Lincoln Memorial University, <i>Harrogate, TN</i>		323	18
19 Monmouth University, <i>West Long Branch, NJ</i>		285	20
20 University of Maryland Eastern Shore, <i>Princess Anne, MD</i>		267	NR
21 University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, <i>Whitewater, WI</i>		251	23
22 Prairie View A&M University, <i>Prairie View, TX</i>		197	17
23 LIU, <i>Brooklyn, NY</i>		194	22
24 Marian University, <i>Naperville, IL</i>	3	163	NR
25 Adelphi University, <i>Garden City, NY</i>		109	NR

Also receiving points (must be on 1 in 8 ballots):

University of Alabama at Birmingham, Caldwell University, Chestnut Hill College, Lewis University, Medaille College, Roberts Wesleyan College, St. Francis College Brooklyn, Tusculum University, Valparaiso University, Wilmington University

NTCA voters rank the top 25 teams on their ballot. Each position has a designated point value, ranging from 40 points for first place and one point for twenty-fifth place. To be ranked teams need to equal or surpass the minimum vote criteria, which is one vote for every eight ballots submitted. The actual ranking position is determined by using the adjusted point standings, which lists in priority order the total points a school has accumulated after the highest and lowest votes are dropped.

The specific point values follow: 1st place = 40 points, 2nd =37, 3rd =35, 4th =33, 5th =31, 6th =29, 7th =27, 8th =25, 9th =23, 10th =21, 11th =19, 12th =17, 13th =15, 14th =13, 15th =11, 16th =10, 17th =9, 18th =8, 19th =7, 20th =6, 21st =5, 22nd =4, 23rd =3, 24th =2, 25th =1.