



[Click to view image](#)

Follow the NJCAA on:

NJCAA TV: www.njcaatv.ihigh.com

Facebook: facebook.com/njcaa

Twitter: twitter.com/njcaa or (@njcaa)

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – In May of 1938, representatives from area institutions of higher learning gathered in Fresno, Calif., to form a unique collegiate athletic organization dedicated to America’s community and junior colleges. The meeting led to the adoption of a constitution and representatives in attendance formally announced the new organization as the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA).

Seventy-five years after its inaugural season (1938-39), the NJCAA is now the second-largest national intercollegiate athletic governing body in the United States with over 500 member colleges in 43 states. Recognized as the leader in two-year collegiate athletics, the NJCAA champions both athletic and academic opportunities for student-athletes in concert with its member colleges.

To commemorate its 75th Anniversary, the NJCAA will launch a year-long campaign beginning this May to celebrate the milestones, student-athletes, coaches, and administrators that have helped shape the organization and advance two-year collegiate athletics over the past eight decades.

“Throughout our illustrious history, the NJCAA has had good reason to stop and celebrate its accomplishments,” said NJCAA Executive Director Mary Ellen Leicht. “However, nothing compares to commemorating nearly eight decades of success. The NJCAA student-athlete as well as the many notable administrators, coaches and contributors have been our greatest legacy as an organization and will be the focus of our 75th Anniversary celebration.”

At the 2012 NJCAA Board of Directors Meeting in Colorado Springs, Colo., this past March, Leicht unveiled a special commemorative 75th Anniversary logo that will serve as the primary image for the organization from May 2012 to August 2013. The distinct image, created by [Beam Team Design](#) of Dallas, Texas, celebrates the significance of the organization’s special milestone as well as its leadership in college athletics. The championship banner-style icon stays true to the championship culture the organization strives for and its mountain peak icon symbolizes the achievement of ‘reaching the top’ by all former and future NJCAA student-athletes as well as representing the unique location of the organization’s national headquarters near Pikes Peak in Colorado Springs.

Throughout the 2012-13 academic year, the 75 years of the NJCAA will be highlighted utilizing various mediums, including a custom-designed section of the NJCAA website: NJCAA.org/75. Traditional press releases will be distributed to regional and national media during the 2012-13 sports season and special 75th Anniversary content will be produced for the organization’s monthly publication the *NJCAA Review*. The NJCAA will also use its online video network [NJCAA TV](#), powered by iHigh.com, as well as its presence on social networking sites Facebook and Twitter to keep fans and followers informed on the latest 75th Anniversary news and announcements.

Member colleges will participate in the year-long celebration via several free tools designed by NJCAA Headquarters to be used on campuses across the nation. Athletic departments will be given access to download customizable schedule posters, game-day roster/program flyers, promotional posters and other items that can be co-branded with the commemorative NJCAA 75th Anniversary imagery.

Special uniform patches, decals, banners and other items will be available for member colleges to purchase through NJCAA Headquarters as well as 75th Anniversary branded equipment and merchandise from corporate partners Baden, Balfour, Rawlings, Tachikara and Wilson. These items will also be used at national championship tournaments and events during the 2012-13 year.

All championship trophies awarded for the 2012-13 season will also commemorate the 75th Anniversary thanks to the organization’s awards supplier Medalcraft Mint and student-athletes participating at national championship tournaments and events will wear a special 75th Anniversary logo patch on their uniform.

“The NJCAA is a terrific organization of which I am extremely proud to be a part,” said current NJCAA President Joe Tubb of South Plains College (Texas). “This is a tremendous opportunity for the NJCAA to celebrate its past, present and its vision for the future. I welcome all member colleges and their communities to help us celebrate the NJCAA’s 75th Anniversary.”

The NJCAA 75th Anniversary celebration will begin at the 2012 NJCAA Division I Baseball World Series in Grand Junction, Colo., May 26 – June 2. The event draws over 100,000 fans each year as they witness the best collegiate baseball teams in the nation fight for a national championship. A special 75th Anniversary ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, May 27th and will include former NJCAA Executive Director and pioneer George E. Killian.

This year's tournament will mark the grand reopening of Lincoln Park and Sam Suplizio Field, which has hosted the NJCAA's premier baseball championship since 1959. The complex will reopen on May 26th after an \$8.3 million renovation that includes a new press box, renovated dugouts, reserved chair-back seating and more. For ticket information to the NJCAA Division I World Series visit www.jucogj.org.

ABOUT the NJCAA

The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) is the governing body of two-year college athletics, offering athletic and academic opportunities to college students. It is the second largest national intercollegiate athletic organization in the United States with over 500 member schools in 43 states. Each year over 60,000 student-athletes compete in one of 28 different sports and the organization sponsors 48 national championship events and nine football bowl games. NJCAA Headquarters has been located in Colorado Springs, Colo., since 1985. For more visit <http://www.njcaa.org>.