

New Minnesota Christian Athletic Conference (MCAC) Formed

At our MACS Annual Meeting on April 12, our member schools voted unanimously to approve the creation of a new athletic league called the Minnesota Christian Athletic Conference (MCAC). This is the merging of two athletic conferences, MACS and the Christian Athletic League (CAL) into one larger athletic conference. The rationale regarding this merger is so that we can create a more competitive conference: smaller schools can play smaller schools with their own tournament at the season's end; and larger schools can play larger schools and have their own season-ending tourney as well.

The creation of a new conference will open up a lot of doors for our schools. New relationships will be forged between schools, a stronger base of support and strength will result, and we may be able to offer more activities for our students down the road.

This new venture is on a two-year trial basis and equal representation between CAL and MACS is working to formulate all the rules and guidelines for the upcoming season. The MCAC Committee has met three times and will be meeting again to finalize the policies it is currently working through.

MCAC North Division

Cambridge Christian School—Cambridge
Chisago Christian School—Chisago City
Faith Christian School—Foreston
Granite City Christian School—St. Cloud
Heritage Christian School—Karlstad
Lake Region Christian School—Baxter
Lighthouse Christian School—Grand Rapids
St. Cloud Christian School—St. Cloud
St. Francis Christian School—St. Francis
Woodcrest Baptist Academy—Fridley
Good Shepherd Christian School—Elk River

What will happen to MACS? MACS itself will still stay as it currently is with its 17 member schools. All of the activities, outside of athletics, that MACS offers will still be in operation. Please note the following dates for tournaments.

MCAC Tournament Dates:

Soccer and Volleyball Tournament will be held at Lake Region Oct. 24-26. First round games will take place Mon./Tues., Oct. 21-22, at higher seed. For the tournament, Tier II games will be played Thurs./Fri., and Tier I games will be played Fri./Sat.

Mr. Jeff Bonkoski (athletic director of CAL) and Mr. Shawn McKinney (athletic director of MACS) are the two key players in this project as they will be serving the first year as co-chairs for the conference. Member schools from the new MCAC conference have met and scheduled games for the fall season already. Dates have been finalized for tournaments and definition of lengths of seasons. Much is happening as our group is working toward clear communication for the start of a smooth athletic season in the fall.

Our athletic offerings will not change. The athletic activities MACS has participated in will remain the same. The most noticeable difference will be that there will be different schools on the sports schedules. New schools will be traveled to and our students will have opportunities to forge new relationships, play different teams, and face different competition. We are excited about the possibilities of the new MCAC conference.

The following schools are now a part of MCAC and our new (and smaller) MACS schools (as well as CAL schools) will have the opportunity to participate as they are able. Initially, two divisions have been created, North and South. Here is the current makeup of those divisions:

MCAC South Division

Community Christian School—Wilmar
Grace Christian School—Mankato
First Baptist School—Rosemount
Fourth Baptist Christian School—Plymouth
Immanuel Lutheran School—Mankato
Liberty Christian School—Chippewa Falls
Owatonna Christian School—Owatonna
Prior Lake Christian School—Prior Lake
Rochester Home School—Rochester
Valley Christian School—Osceola

Basketball: Feb. 21-22 are the dates for the first round tournament games for all basketball teams played at higher seed. (Teams will be seeded 1—16 prior to tourney).

Losers of first round games play in the Tier II Tournament February 27—March 1 at Cambridge Christian School.

Winners of first round games play in the Tier I tournament March 6—8 at Fourth Baptist Christian School.

As we implement this new athletic league, we thank you in advance for your prayers, support, and help.

~ Alan Hodak, MACS Executive Director