



Dear CBU Community,

The Christian Brothers University Board of Trustees has approved an important next step for our student-athletes: CBU will pursue membership in the NAIA's Mid-South Conference. CBU has submitted its application, and the NAIA is expected to formally act on it during its fall meetings later this month. Pending that approval, CBU Athletics will begin competition in the Mid-South Conference with the 2027–28 season.

I want to be clear about our commitment to our current student-athletes. This transition does not change the scholarship or financial aid commitments CBU has made to them. Our responsibility is to support our students well throughout this transition and to communicate openly as additional details are finalized. I am grateful for the partnership and candor of our coaches, athletics staff, and student-athletes as we move forward.

It's no secret that college athletics is going through a significant period of change. We believe this move provides a more stable foundation for the future and aligns us with a conference of similar institutions that share a strong commitment to the development of student-athletes, academic success, and meaningful opportunities for competition. Membership in the Mid-South Conference will also place CBU within a more regional competitive structure, creating the potential for a schedule that better supports the balance among academics, athletics, and campus life.

In many ways, this is also a return to an important part of CBU's athletic history. CBU competed in the NAIA for nearly four decades before moving to NCAA Division II in 1996–97. We are proud of that tradition, and we will carry it with us into this next chapter.

I wanted our own community to hear this news from me and to understand both why we are making this move and what comes next. We will also provide a dedicated webpage at cbu.edu/naia with FAQs and additional information for students, families, faculty, staff, alumni, and other members of the CBU community. We will continue to update those resources as details are finalized.

Our approach to athletics has never been just about wins and losses alone — it is about developing the whole student. I believe this move will give us a stronger and more sustainable platform to do that work well.

Thank you for your continued support of CBU.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Brandon
President
Christian Brothers University