



MEMORANDUM

November 3, 2009

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TO: Directors of Athletics of NCAA Division I Institutions.

FROM: James L. Isch
Interim President.

SUBJECT: Elite 88™ Academic Recognition Award Program.

As the 2009-10 NCAA championship season approaches, we want to introduce a new academic recognition award: the Elite 88. This award will be presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average competing at the finals site at each of our 88 championships. [Link to October 16, 2009, NCAA News story.](#)

This is a tremendous opportunity to honor the academic accomplishments of our top student-athletes. In addition, it continues the academic movement advanced by Dr. Myles Brand.

Each institution with at least one student-athlete qualifier for the finals site of any NCAA championship is eligible to submit an Elite 88 nomination. Our Web page is located at: [NCAA.org/Media and Events/Awards/Elite 88 Award](#). Here you will find the nomination form that is to be used for all of the championships, along with the deadlines for each. The criteria for award eligibility are included on the nomination form.

In addition, the Excel spreadsheet calculation form is to be completed electronically by any institution that uses a plus/minus grading system. It is of utmost importance that the grade-point average is based on a straight 4.000 scale. This will ensure that every student-athlete will be treated equitably and have the same opportunity to win the award.

If you have any questions concerning this program, please contact Mark Bedics, associate director of media coordination and championships or Ryan Hall, assistant director of academic and membership affairs at 317/917-6222 or elite88@ncaa.org.

JLI:alg

cc: Division I Conference Commissioners
Faculty Athletics Representatives]
Senior Compliance Administrators] of NCAA Division I Institutions.
Senior Woman Administrators]
Sports Information Directors]

National Collegiate Athletic Association

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