

NJCAA HISTORY

1937

May: Representatives from 13 California two-year colleges meet at the West Coast relays in Fresno, Calif., to discuss participation in the NCAA Track & Field Championship. Led by Oliver E. Byrd from San Mateo JC (Calif.), the group sends a petition to NCAA President W.B. Owens requesting participation.

1938

May 14: After the NCAA rejects their proposal, the 13 California representatives reassemble at the West Coast Relays and approve the adoption of a constitution for a national two-year collegiate athletics association drafted by Oliver E. Byrd, now a faculty member at Stanford University. Byrd is elected as the organization's first president.

1939

May: Sacramento JC (Calif.) hosts the first-ever National Track & Field Championship Meet held exclusively for two-year schools.

May 26: The organization adopts the name "National Junior College Athletic Association".
The state of California is divided into four geographical regions and eligibility standards for championship participation are established.

June: Two weeks after being reelected to a second term, reigning President Oliver E. Byrd steps down due to his duties at Stanford University. L.D. Weldon from Sacramento JC (Calif.) is elected as the second President of the NJCAA. Weldon would go on to coach Olympic decathlon gold medalist Bruce Jenner.

1940

May 31: Hershel Smith from Compton College (Calif.) is elected as the third President of the NJCAA. As the Track & Field head coach at Compton, Smith coached Olympic gold medalists Cornelius Johnson and Charles Dumas.
The number of geographic regions is increased to six to encompass the entire continental United States.

1941

June: The third NJCAA Track & Field Championship is held in Denver, marking the first championship held outside the state of California.

1942

May: Otto K. Anderson from Pasadena JC (Calif.) is elected as the fourth President of the NJCAA.

1943-45

World War II suspends all NJCAA sanctioned activities.

1945

Feb: Compton College (Calif.) hosts the first Western States Basketball Tournament. The tournament brings discussions on reviving the NJCAA and a meeting is scheduled for May 1946.

1946

May: Following a three-year hiatus, the NJCAA Track & Field Championship is held in Phoenix.
P.F. Wilhelmsen from Visalia JC (Calif.) is elected as the fifth President of the NJCAA.
Discussions begin on expanding the association to include football, basketball and swimming.

1947

March 7: A special meeting is held at Compton College (Calif.) to increase the number of regions to eight instead of the originally planned seven. This allows each region to send a champion and runner-up to a national basketball tournament planned for the 1948 season.

May 10: E.P. Coleman from Wentworth Military (Mo.) is elected as the sixth President of the NJCAA and the first from outside the state of California.

1948

March: Southwest Missouri State hosts the first NJCAA Basketball Championship in Springfield, Missouri. Bob Crowe from Compton College (Calif.) becomes the first African-American to ever play in the Southwest Missouri State Fieldhouse.
The annual meeting marks the first in which each region is represented and California representatives are not in the majority.
As basketball causes membership to jump from 23 to 121 colleges, the number of geographic regions is increased from eight to 16.

April: Compton College (Calif.) hosts the first NJCAA Swimming Championship.

May: The first NJCAA Men's Golf Championship is held in Kansas City, Missouri.
The first NJCAA Men's Tennis Invitational Championship is held in Lexington, Missouri.

Sept: NJCAA executive secretary Stephen Glover produces the first *NJCAA Monthly News Bulletin* highlighting the organization's activities.

1949

March: The second NJCAA Basketball Championship is held in Hutchinson, Kansas. Reed K. Swenson from Weber College (Utah) is elected as the seventh President of the NJCAA. The NJCAA Executive Committee – consisting of national officers – is created.

April: The Advisory Swim Committee selects the NJCAA's first All-America team. The first NJCAA Boxing Championship is held in Pasadena, California. The first NJCAA Men's Gymnastics Championship is held in Los Angeles.

1950

Aug: The first *NJCAA Handbook* is produced to provide all members with information on participation in NJCAA activities, association policies and rules.

March: With membership growing to over 200 colleges in 33 states, the NJCAA overhauls its constitution and eligibility rules. Championships are separated into "National" and "Invitational" classifications. An annual budget is adopted to establish yearly, monetary guidelines for the association. The sport of Boxing is discontinued the following season.

1951

Sept: California Junior College Association bans state schools from participating in NJCAA sponsored events.

March: The NJCAA announces its first All-America basketball team.

1952

March: The newly built Hutchinson Sports Arena hosts its first NJCAA Men's Basketball Championship.

1953

Aug: Under advisement by the American Association of Junior Colleges, the NJCAA releases a "Statement of Principles for Conducting Junior College Athletics" to solidify itself as a credible national organization.

1954

Sept: The *NJCAA Bulletin* is renamed the *JUCO Review*.

1956

Dec. 15: Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum hosts the first NJCAA National Championship Football Game.

1958

May: Northeastern Oklahoma A&M hosts the first NJCAA Baseball Invitational Championship in Miami, Oklahoma.

1959

May: The NJCAA Baseball World Series is reclassified as a national championship and is held in Grand Junction, Colorado.

Nov. 3: Alfred A&T (N.Y.) hosts the first NJCAA Cross Country Invitational Championship in Alfred, New York.

1960

March: Alfred A&T (N.Y.) hosts the first NJCAA Wrestling Championship in Alfred, New York.

1961

Feb: The first NJCAA Rifle Invitational Championship is held in Lawton, Oklahoma.

Nov: The first NJCAA National Soccer Invitational Championship is held in Middleton, New York.

1962

March: Gerald D. Allard from Farmingdale A&T (N.Y.) is elected as the eighth President of the NJCAA.

1963

Nov. 26: Navy quarterback Roger Staubach from New Mexico Military becomes the first former NJCAA student-athlete to win the Heisman Trophy.

1964

March: The NJCAA gains representation on the NCAA rules committees for basketball, track & field and wrestling.

1965

March: The NJCAA approves a proposal for junior college coaches associations.

1967

March: George E. Killian from Erie County Tech (N.Y.) is elected as the ninth President of the NJCAA. The NJCAA Wrestling Championship is reclassified as a national championship and is hosted by Worthington (Minn.).

Sept: The NJCAA becomes a charter member of the United States Collegiate Sports Council.

1968

March: The Office of the NJCAA Executive Director is established in Hutchinson, Kansas. The number of geographic regions is increased from 16 to 19.

June: The NJCAA Men's Golf Championship is reclassified as a national championship and is held in Roswell, New Mexico. The NJCAA Men's Tennis Championship is reclassified as a national championship and is hosted by Central Florida.

Oct: At the age of 19, Spencer Haywood (Trinidad State, Colo.) becomes the youngest player to ever play for the United States Olympic Basketball Team. Haywood averaged 16.1 points per game at the Mexico City Olympics, leading the U.S. to the gold medal. Haywood's performance is tabbed by NJCAA President George E. Killian as the "best thing that ever happened to the NJCAA".

Nov: The NJCAA Men's Cross Country Championship is reclassified as a national championship and is held in Lawrence, Kansas. The NJCAA Men's Soccer Championship is reclassified as a national championship and is hosted by Nassau (N.Y.).

1969

March: President George E. Killian is appointed as the first NJCAA Executive Director. Homa Thomas from Northeastern Oklahoma A&M is elected to replace Killian and becomes the 10th President of the NJCAA.

Aug. 1: NJCAA Executive Director George E. Killian establishes the NJCAA National Office at the Hilton Inn in Hutchinson, Kansas.

1970

Feb: The first NJCAA Men's Alpine Skiing Invitational Championship is held in Banner Elk, North Carolina.

March: The first regulations on athletic scholarships in two-year collegiate athletics are published in the *NJCAA Handbook*.

May: Farmingdale A&T (N.Y.) hosts the first NJCAA Men's Lacrosse Invitational Championship in Farmingdale, New York.

1971

March: Erie (N.Y.) hosts the first NJCAA Bowling Invitational Championship in Buffalo, New York.

Sept. 10: Former Eastern Arizona defensive lineman John Mitchell becomes the first African-American to play football at Alabama. The following season, Mitchell becomes the Crimson Tide's first African-American co-captain and becomes the school's first African-American assistant coach, the following year.

1972

Jan: Washington running back Larry Brown from Dodge City (Kan.) becomes the first former NJCAA student-athlete to be named NFL MVP.

Jan. 16: Former New Mexico Military quarterback Roger Staubach leads the Dallas Cowboys to a 24-3 win over the Miami Dolphins in Super Bowl VI. Staubach becomes the first former NJCAA student-athlete to be named Super Bowl MVP.

March: Rainy River (Minn.) hosts the first NJCAA Ice Hockey Invitational Championship in International Falls, Minnesota.

May 6: Jackson (Mich.) hosts the first NJCAA Judo Championship in Jackson, Michigan.

1973

Feb: The NJCAA Men's Swimming & Diving Championship is reclassified as a national championship and is hosted by Alfred State (N.Y.) in Alfred, New York. The first NJCAA Men's Indoor Track & Field National Championship is held in Columbia, Missouri.

March: The number of geographic regions is increased from 19 to 21.

May: Former NJCAA All-American Bob McAdoo from Vincennes (Ind.) becomes the first former NJCAA student-athlete to be named NBA Rookie of the Year.

1974

- March:** Theo Heap from Mesa (Ariz.) is elected as the 11th President of the NJCAA.
- April:** Schoolcraft (Mich.) hosts the first NJCAA Men's Volleyball Invitational Championship in Livonia, Michigan.
- May:** Former NJCAA All-American Bob McAdoo from Vincennes (Ind.) becomes the first former NJCAA student-athlete to be named NBA Most Valuable Player.
- June:** Southwestern Michigan hosts the first NJCAA Marathon Invitational Championship in Dowagiac, Michigan.
- Dec:** CCBC Catonsville hosts the first NJCAA Women's Volleyball Invitational Championship in Baltimore, Maryland. The championship is the first held for women by a coed national collegiate athletics organization.

1975

- March:** The NJCAA establishes the first women's division for collegiate athletics in the United States.
Johnson County (Kan.) hosts the first NJCAA Women's Basketball Invitational Championship in Overland Park, Kansas.
The first NJCAA Men's Nordic Skiing Invitational Championship is held in McAfee, New Jersey.
- May:** The first NJCAA Women's Tennis Invitational Championship is held in Kerrville, Texas.
- Nov:** The NJCAA Women's Volleyball Championship is reclassified as a national championship.
Ocean County (N.J.) hosts the first NJCAA Women's Field Hockey Invitational Championship in Toms River, New Jersey.

1976

- Feb:** Schoolcraft (Mich.) hosts the first NJCAA Women's Swimming & Diving Invitational Championship in Livonia, Michigan.
- March:** The number of geographic regions is increased from 21 to 22.
The NJCAA Women's Basketball Tournament is reclassified as a national championship.
The NJCAA Men's Basketball Championship implements a 21-team tournament format.
Jefferson State (Ala.) hosts the first NJCAA Women's Gymnastics Invitational Championship in Birmingham, Alabama.
The first NJCAA Women's Alpine Skiing Invitational Championship is held in Smuggler's Notch, Vermont.
- May:** Dodge City (Kan.) hosts the first NJCAA Women's Outdoor Track & Field Invitational Championship in Dodge City, Kansas.
The NJCAA Women's Tennis Championship is reclassified as a national championship and is hosted by Midland (Texas).
- June:** Temple (Texas) hosts the first NJCAA Women's Golf Championship in Temple, Texas.
- Nov:** Farmingdale A&T (N.Y.) hosts the first NJCAA Women's Cross Country Invitational Championship in Farmingdale, New York.

1977

- March:** The NJCAA Women's Swimming & Diving Championship is reclassified as a national championship.
Erie (N.Y.) hosts the first NJCAA Women's Bowling Invitational Championship in Buffalo, New York.
The sport of Men's Volleyball is discontinued beginning the following season.
- May:** Iowa Central hosts the first NJCAA Women's Softball Invitational Championship in Fort Dodge, Iowa.

1978

- March:** The NJCAA Men's Basketball Championship reverts back to a 16-team tournament format.
- May:** The NJCAA Women's Outdoor Track & Field Championship is reclassified as a national championship.

1979

- March:** The NJCAA discontinues the sport of Judo beginning the following season.

1980

- Feb. 22:** Former Massasoit ice hockey goalie Jim Craig and the United States defeat the Soviet Union 4-3 at the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, New York. The game goes down as one of the biggest upsets in sports history and is coined the "Miracle on Ice".
- March:** Head coach Nolan Richardson directs Western Texas to a 37-0 national championship season. Richardson would go on to coach Arkansas to 13 NCAA Tournament appearances and the first national championship in program history in 1994.
The first NJCAA Women's Indoor Track & Field National Championship is held in Columbia, Missouri.
The sport of Rifle is discontinued beginning the following season.
- Nov:** The NJCAA Women's Cross Country Championship is reclassified as a national championship and is hosted by North Idaho in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

1981

- March:** Former Roane State (Tenn.) women's basketball player Bernadette Mattox leads Georgia to the 1981 NCAA NIT Championship and becomes the school's first female All-American.

May:	The NJCAA Women's Softball Championship is reclassified as a national championship and is hosted by St. Louis-Meramec (Mo.).
1982	
Nov:	Monroe CC (N.Y.) hosts the first NJCAA Women's Soccer Invitational Championship in Rochester, New York.
1983	
March:	The number of geographic regions is increased from 22 to 24.
May:	Wallace State (Ala.) hosts the first NJCAA Slow-Pitch Softball Invitational Championship in Hanceville, Alabama.
Dec. 3:	Nebraska running back Mike Rozier from Coffeyville (Kan.) wins the Heisman Trophy.
1984	
March:	The NJCAA discontinues the sport of Men's Gymnastics beginning the following season.
1985	
March:	Wayne Baker is appointed as the first Eligibility Administrator of the NJCAA. Oscar "Swede" Erickson from Casper (Wyo.) is elected as the 12 th President of the NJCAA.
July 30:	The NJCAA National Office is relocated to Colorado Springs, Colorado.
1986	
Feb. 8:	Former NJCAA All-American Anthony "Spud" Webb from Midland (Texas) becomes the shortest player in history to win the NBA Slam Dunk Contest at 5 feet, 6 inches. Webb led Midland to the 1982 NJCAA Men's Basketball National Championship.
March:	The NJCAA discontinues the sport of Women's Gymnastics beginning the following season. The NJCAA establishes a Division II for Men's Basketball, limiting athletic scholarships to tuition and fees only.
June:	Southwestern Michigan hosts the first NJCAA Women's Marathon Invitational Championship in Dowagiac, Michigan.
1988	
April:	The NJCAA Board of Directors approves semester-based eligibility standards.
1989	
April:	The NJCAA adopts "National Letter of Intent" policies and procedures. The NJCAA establishes a Division III non-scholarship division for Men's Basketball.
May 1:	Golden State Warriors guard Mitch Richmond from Moberly (Mo.) is named NBA Rookie of the Year.
Nov:	The NJCAA Women's Soccer Championship is reclassified as a national championship and is hosted by Mercer County (N.J.).
1990	
March:	Elected as the 13 th President of the NJCAA, Lea Plarski from St. Louis-Florissant Valley (Mo.) becomes the first female to hold the office. The sports of Men's & Women's Nordic Skiing are discontinued beginning the following season.
April 2:	Former NJCAA All-American Larry Johnson from Odessa (Texas) leads UNLV to the NCAA National Championship.
June 13:	Former Roane State (Tenn.) women's basketball player Bernadette Mattox becomes the first female assistant coach for an NCAA Division I men's basketball team under Kentucky head coach Rick Pitino.
Aug:	NJCAA Executive Director George E. Killian is elected as the President of International Basketball Federation (FIBA). Killian would play a vital role in assembling the 1992 USA "Dream Team" that took gold at the Barcelona Summer Olympics.
1991	
April:	The NJCAA discontinues the sports of Men's & Women's Alpine Skiing beginning the following season.
June 26:	Months after being named NCAA Naismith College Player of the Year, former NJCAA All-American Larry Johnson from Odessa (Texas) becomes the first former NJCAA student-athlete to be selected with the No. 1 overall pick in the NBA Draft when he is taken by the Charlotte Hornets.
Oct 26:	Weeks after being named MVP of the American League Championship Series, Minnesota Twins center fielder Kirby Puckett from Triton (Ill.) hits a walk-off home run in the bottom of the 11 th inning in Game 6 of the World Series. The former NJCAA All-American's home run forces a Game 7 which the Twins win, giving Puckett his second World Series title.

1992

May 12: Charlotte Hornets forward Larry Johnson from Odessa (Texas) is named NBA Rookie of the Year.

1993

April: The NJCAA adopts sports procedures to bring the association in line with other major sports organizations.

April 4: Former NJCAA All-American and 1991 NJCAA Player of the Year Sheryl Swoopes from South Plains (Texas) is named Most Outstanding Player of the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament after leading Texas Tech to its first national championship.

1994

June: The NJCAA awards its first Academic Teams of the Year, recognizing the programs in each sport with the highest combined GPA.

1995

March: Former Roane State (Tenn.) women's basketball player Bernadette Mattox becomes the first African-American to coach Kentucky's women's basketball team.

April: The NJCAA adds Division II for women's basketball, baseball, cross country, soccer and men's golf, limiting athletic scholarships to tuition and fees only.

1996

April: William Wirtanen from Mesabi Range (Minn.) is elected as the 14th President of the NJCAA.

July: Former NJCAA All-American and 1991 NJCAA Player of the Year Sheryl Swoopes from South Plains (Texas) leads the United States to a gold medal at the Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Swoopes would lead Team USA to two more gold medals at the 2000 and 2004 games. Three months later, Swoopes becomes the first player to sign a professional contract with the WNBA.

1997

April: The NJCAA discontinues the sport of Women's Field Hockey beginning the following season.

1999

April: Karen Sykes from Dean (Mass.) is elected as the 15th President of the NJCAA.

June 25: San Antonio Spurs guard Avery Johnson from New Mexico JC hits the championship-winning shot against the New York Knicks in Game 5 of the NBA Finals.

2000

April: The NJCAA discontinues the sport of Slow-Pitch Softball beginning the following season.

May 10: Former NJCAA All-American Steve Francis from San Jacinto-Central (Texas) and Allegany of Maryland is named NBA Rookie of the Year.

Sept: Former NJCAA All-American and 1996 NJCAA Softball Championship MVP Crystl Bustos from Palm Beach State (Fla.) leads the United States softball team to a gold medal at the Summer Olympics in Sydney. Bustos would lead Team USA to gold again at the 2004 games in Athens.

Aug: The NJCAA institutes an online stat-entry database.

Aug. 17: Former NJCAA All-American and 1991 NJCAA Player of the Year Sheryl Swoopes of South Plains (Texas) is named WNBA Most Valuable Player. Swoopes would be named MVP two more times in her career, claiming the award in 2002 and 2005.

2001

Jan: Former NJCAA All-American Kendrell Bell from Middle Georgia becomes the first former NJCAA student-athlete to be named NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year.

Oct. 23: Former NJCAA All-American Albert Pujols from MCC-Maple Woods (Mo.) is named MLB National League Rookie of the Year.

Nov. 4: Arizona Diamondbacks pitcher Curt Schilling from Yavapai (Ariz.) is named World Series MVP in his first of three championships.

2002

April: The NJCAA Men's & Women's Marathon Championships are reclassified as national championships and reduced to half marathons.

2003

Jan. 23: Former NJCAA All-American Jeremy Shockey from Northeastern Oklahoma A&M is named 2002 NFL Rookie of the Year.

June 23: Former San Jacinto-North (Texas) baseball coach Wayne Graham directs Rice to the school's only College World Series title.

2004

- April:** Art Becker from Scottsdale (Ariz.) is elected as the 16th President of the NJCAA.
- May:** Finger Lakes (N.Y.) hosts the first NJCAA Women's Lacrosse Invitational Championship in Canandaigua, New York.
- July:** After serving 35 years as Executive Director of the NJCAA, George E. Killian resigns. Associate Executive Director Wayne Baker is appointed as his replacement, becoming the second Executive Director in the association's history. The NJCAA institutes an online eligibility system.
- July 7:** Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Eric Gagne from Seminole State (Okla.) earns his MLB-record 84th consecutive save.
- Aug. 1:** The *JUCO Review* is revamped with the addition of color photos and graphic design. The NJCAA unveils a new logo designed by member college Fashion IT (N.Y.).

2005

- Feb. 6:** New England Patriots wide receiver Deion Branch from (Jones County (Miss.) ties a Super Bowl record with 11 catches in a 24-21 win over the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl XXXIX. Branch becomes the second former NJCAA student-athlete to be named Super Bowl MVP.
- Oct:** Chicago White Sox pitcher Mark Buehrle from Jefferson (Mo.) becomes the first pitcher to start and save consecutive games in the World Series since New York Yankees pitcher Bob Turley in 1958.

2006

- July:** The NJCAA contracts College Sports Television (CSTV) to broadcast three tape-delayed NJCAA national championships.

2007

- May:** College Sports Television (CSTV) adds the Division I Baseball World Series as the fourth broadcasted NJCAA championship.
- Aug:** An NJCAA All-Star softball team competes in the World University Games in Thailand.
- Dec. 3:** Former Betty Jo Graber Award winner Sally Kipyego (South Plains, Texas) becomes the first Kenyan woman to win a NCAA Cross Country National Championship.

2008

- Aug:** The *JUCO Review* is redesigned and renamed the *NJCAA Review*. At the Summer Olympics in Beijing, NJCAA All-American and 1996 NJCAA Softball Championship MVP Crystl Bustos from Palm Beach State (Fla.) hits an Olympic-record six home runs and ties her own Olympic-record with 10 RBIs as the United States takes silver.

2009

- Jan:** Wayne Baker resigns as Executive Director of the NJCAA. Associate Executive Director Mary Ellen Leicht is named interim Executive Director.
- July:** The NJCAA implements an online membership and divisional commitment system. Chicago White Sox pitcher Mark Buehrle from Jefferson (Mo.) pitches the 18th perfect game in MLB history and five days later retires an MLB-record 45th consecutive batter.
- July 10:** Interim Executive Director Mary Ellen Leicht is appointed as the third Executive Director of the NJCAA. Leicht becomes the first female chief executive of any intercollegiate athletics organization in the United States.
- Aug:** The NJCAA partners with PSB Live to create the *NJCAA TV* platform featuring live online streaming of six national championships. The NJCAA establishes Facebook and Twitter social media platforms.

2010

- June 7:** Former NJCAA Division I Baseball Player of the Year Bryce Harper (Southern Nevada) becomes the first two-year college player taken with the No. 1 overall pick in the MLB Draft when he is selected by the Washington Nationals.
- July:** An NJCAA All-Star baseball team competes in the Haarlem Honkball Tournament in the Netherlands. The NJCAA partners with Medalcraft Mint to modernize trophies and medals for championship events.
- Dec 11:** Auburn quarterback Cam Newton from Blinn (Texas) becomes the third former NJCAA student-athlete to win the Heisman trophy. One month later, Newton leads the Tigers to the BCS National Championship.

2011

- March:** Joe Tubb from South Plains (Texas) is elected as the 17th President of the NJCAA. All NJCAA Invitational Championships (bowling, half marathon, ice hockey and lacrosse) are renamed "NJCAA Championships".

- April 5:** Former NJCAA All-American Danielle Adams (Jefferson, Mo.) is named Most Outstanding Player of the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament after leading Texas A&M to its first national championship. Adams scores 30 points in the final against Notre Dame, the second-most points scored in the history of the title game.
- Aug:** The NJCAA partners with iHigh.com to create a new *NJCAA TV* platform for live online streaming of sporting events. The partnership allows NJCAA member schools to broadcast sporting events for free.
- Aug 5:** Former NJCAA All-American Jim Thome (Illinois Central) becomes the eighth player in MLB history to hit 600 home runs.
- Oct. 28:** St. Louis Cardinals third baseman David Freese from St. Louis-Meramec (Mo.) is named World Series MVP after setting an MLB postseason record with 21 RBIs. In Game 6, Freese kept the Cardinals alive with a two-out, game-tying triple in the bottom of the 9th inning and a game-winning, walk-off home run in the bottom of the 11th that forced a Game 7.

2012

- Jan. 24:** Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton from Blinn (Texas) is named 2011 NFL Rookie of the Year after becoming the first rookie in league history to throw for 400 yards in a game and 4,000 yards in a season.
- April:** The NJCAA signs an agreement with Sports Marketing Affiliates (SMA) to establish a trademark licensing program.
- May:** The NJCAA launches its 75th Anniversary celebration with a new logo and nation-wide marketing campaign.
- Aug:** The NJCAA partners with PrestoSports to create a new online NJCAA Stat System. The NJCAA implements the Football Computer Rankings (FCR) system to add a subjective component to its football poll.
- Aug. 7:** At the Summer Olympics in London, former Mississippi Gulf Coast long jumper Brittney Reese joins Jackie Joyner-Kersey as the only American woman to capture gold in the event with a jump of 23 feet, 4 ½ inches.
- Oct:** In conjunction with Jim Host, the NJCAA forms *NJCAA Sports Properties* to manage the organization's advertising, marketing, corporate sponsorships and broadcasting rights.
- Nov:** The NJCAA Division I Men's and Women's Soccer National Championships implement a 12-team, pool-play format.

2013

- March:** The NJCAA Division I Men's and Women's Basketball National Championships begin under their new 24-team, single-elimination format featuring four at-large selections and four annual rotating zone qualifiers.

2014

- April 5:** Bryce Roderick of the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference (KJCCC) is elected as the 18th President of the NJCAA. The NJCAA All-American Committee adopts a new online nomination procedure to streamline the process and provide selection committees with a more efficient report of nominee statistics.
- April 13:** Former Faulkner State (Ala.) men's golfer Bubba Watson wins his second Masters title. Watson becomes only the 17th golfer in the history of the tournament to win multiple Green Jackets.
- April 22:** Former NJCAA All-American Albert Pujols from MCC-Maple Woods (Mo.) hits his 500th home run in Major League Baseball.

2015

- Jan:** The NJCAA Executive Committee – in concert with Executive Director Mary Ellen Leicht – launches the NJCAA Excellence Initiative. The project aims to identify areas of the association that can be improved to streamline efficiency in governance structure, legislative processes, leadership development and membership engagement.
- Feb. 1:** With 20 seconds remaining in Super Bowl XLIX, former Hinds (Miss.) defensive back Malcolm Butler intercepts a pass at the goal line to preserve the New England Patriots' 28-24 win over the Seattle Seahawks. The pass was intended for Seahawks wide receiver Ricardo Lockette, a former track & field student-athlete at Wallace State (Ala.).
- March:** The NJCAA Board of Directors repeals all bylaws in reference to the restriction of HS (-3) student-athletes. After thorough discussion and review, the board found that the bylaws were inconsistent with the association's mission and detracted from the organization's goal of promoting healthy and fair competition.
- Following a two-year project to overhaul Articles I-IX of the NJCAA Constitution, the NJCAA Board of Directors adopts the restructured bylaws for the 2015-16 academic year.
- Nov. 19:** Washington National outfielder Bryce Harper from Southern Nevada is named MLB National League MVP.
- Chicago Cubs pitcher Jake Arrieta from Weatherford (Texas) wins the MLB National League Cy Young Award.

2016

- Feb. 7:** Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton from Blinn (Texas) becomes the second former NJCAA student-athlete to be named NFL MVP.
- April 2:** As a result of the NJCAA Excellence Initiative, the association adopts its first-ever strategic plan.

- April 7:** Board of Directors approves the formation of Presidential Advisory Council to gain greater involvement of member college presidents. The council is to be made up of the standing six Presidential Representatives – part of the Board of Directors – as well as six additional presidents from across the membership elected from the six presidential districts.
- Aug:** 45 former NJCAA student-athletes from 23 member colleges take part in the 2016 Summer Olympics and produce 11 medals.
- Aug 10:** NJCAA Executive Director Mary Ellen Leicht announces that the 2016-17 season will be her last after 28 years with the association – including eight as its chief executive officer.

2017

- Feb. 16:** NJCAA TV, through its partnership with Blue Frame Technology, releases streaming applications for Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV, Android TV and Roku making NJCAA TV broadcasts easily accessible in over 40 million homes in the United States.
- April 8:** Mick McDaniel from Tompkins Cortland (N.Y.) is elected as the 19th President of the NJCAA.
- May 10:** Dr. Christopher Parker is announced as the new Executive Director of the NJCAA. Parker becomes only the fourth person to lead the NJCAA in the CEO role since its founding in 1938.
- June 4:** Former NJCAA All-American Albert Pujols from MCC-Maple Woods (Mo.) becomes just the ninth player to reach 600 home runs in Major League Baseball history. He is the second former NJCAA baseball player to reach 600 home runs in the majors behind Jim Thome (Illinois Central).

2018

- Feb. 26** NJCAA announces opening of new headquarters, located in Charlotte, NC which will open in the fall of 2018. The association also announced the addition of its NJCAA Future Leaders Internship program along with its Leadership Institute.
- April 11** NJCAA adopts new governance structure. Formerly known as the Board of Directors, the 37-member Board of Regents is comprised of Mick McDaniel (Chair), Marci Henry (Women's Administrator), Dean Myrick (Men's Administrator), one representative from each of the 24 NJCAA regions, four at-large members, and six Presidential Advisory Council Members
- July 29** Former NJCAA All-American Jim Thome inducted into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame