

National Tenpin Coaches Association 2024-2025 Preseason Coaches Poll

JACKSONVILLE STATE TOPS 2024-25 PRESEASON POLL

October 1, 2024 — Jacksonville State may have lost four NTCA All-Americans from its 2023 NCAA championship team but the nation's bowling coaches are still believers in the Gamecocks.

In a pre-season poll of National Tenpin Coaches Association members, Jacksonville State garnered 31 of the 50 first-place votes and 2,076 poll points despite its heavy graduation losses. The Gamecocks will depend upon sophomore returnee Danielle Henderson and heralded sophomore newcomer Annalise O'Bryant to lead a roster that includes four freshmen.

Arkansas State, the 2023 NCAA runner-up, was second in the poll with five first-place votes and 1,950 points. The Red Wolves, who also sustained significant graduation losses, return second team NTCA All-America Karli VanDuinen and veteran Maggi Thoma in their quest to remain among national powers.

Youngstown State, third in the new poll, has enjoyed a steady rise through the NTCA ranks under 2023 NTCA Coach of the Year Doug Kuberski. Senior Jade Cote and graduate students Madyson Marx and Kirsten Moore will pace a veteran roster that hopes to maintain the Penguins' strength of recent seasons. Youngstown received four first-place votes.

Vanderbilt and Nebraska were fourth and fifth. The Commodores notched four first-place votes and return a veteran roster, highlighted by NTCA All-Americans Paige Peters, Victoria Varano and graduate transfer Isabel Allen, formerly of Jacksonville State.

The Cornhuskers feature one of the nation's top stars in junior Jillian Martin and will need to rely on a strong freshman class highlighted by Karina Capron, the 2024 Junior Gold champion. Nebraska nabbed four first place votes.

The remainder of the Top 10 is rounded out by programs familiar to bowling's upper echelons. North Carolina A&T returns three NTCA All-Americans and was sixth with one first-place vote, followed by Louisiana Tech, Sam Houston State, Maryville and Duquesne.

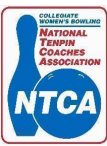
Stephen F. Austin, Mount St. Mary's, Tulane, Newman and Merrimack hold down the 11th through 15th positions while Maryland-Eastern Shore, NCAA bowling newcomer Wichita State, which landed a first-place vote, Sacred Heart, Fairleigh Dickinson and Valparaiso complete the Top 20.

McKendree, Wisconsin-Whitewater, Delaware State, Oklahoma Christian and Niagara complete the Top 25.

Conference USA members dominated the poll, landing the top four teams and six of the Top 10.

Official practice for NCAA bowling programs begins October 1 with some of the early fall tournaments coming about the middle of the month.

The 2025 NCAA Championship will be held at the Suncoast Bowling Center in Las Vegas, Nevada next April.



National Tenpin Coaches Association

2024-2025 Preseason Coaches Poll

October 1, 2024

<u>Rank</u>	<u>School, Location, Conference Affiliation</u>	<u>1st Place Votes</u>	<u>Point Total</u>
1	Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL (CUSA)	31	2076
2	Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, AR (CUSA)	5	1950
3	Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH (CUSA)	4	1879
4	Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (CUSA)	4	1809
5	University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE (INDEPENDENT)	4	1779
6	North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC (MEAC)	1	1688
7	Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA (CUSA)		1458
8	Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX (CUSA)		1428
9	Maryville University, St. Louis, MO (GLVC)		1320
10	Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA (NEC)		1234
11	Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX (CUSA)		1092
12	Mount St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg, MD (INDEPENDENT)		891
13	Tulane University, New Orleans, LA (CUSA)		821
14	Merrimack College, North Andover, MA (INDEPENDENT)		784
15	Newman University, Wichita, KS (GLVC)		779
16	University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Princess Anne, MD (MEAC)		756
17	Wichita State University, Wichita, KS (CUSA)	1	686
18	Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT (INDEPENDENT)		656
19	Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN (CUSA)		557
20	Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ (NEC)		535
21	McKendree University, Lebanon, IL (GLVC)		459
22	University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Whitewater, WI (INDEPENDENT)		414
23	Delaware State University, Dover, DE (MEAC)		399
24	Oklahoma Christian University, Edmond, OK (GLVC)		394
25	Niagara University, Niagara University, NY (NEC)		328

Also Receiving Votes: University of Alabama at Birmingham, Alvernia University, Bryant University, University of Central Missouri, Felician University, Lewis University, Mercyhurst University, Monmouth University, Saint Vincent College, and William Smith College.

Point system: NTCA submitted ballots rank the top thirty programs in the sport of NCAA Bowling a National Collegiate sport. Each position has a designated point value, ranging from forty-five points for first place and one point for thirtieth place. To be ranked teams need to equal or surpass the minimum vote criteria, which is one vote for every eight ballots submitted. The actual ranking position is determined by using the adjusted point standings, which lists in priority order the total points a school has accumulated after the highest and lowest votes are dropped.

The specific point values follow: 1st place = 45 points, 2nd =42, 3rd =40, 4th =38, 5th =36, 6th =34, 7th =32, 8th =30, 9th =28, 10th =26, 11th =24, 12th =22, 13th =20, 14th =18, 15th =16, 16th =15, 17th =14, 18th =13, 19th =12, 20th =11, 21st =10, 22nd =9, 23rd =8, 24th =7, 25th =6, 26th =5, 27th =4, 28th =3, 29th =2, 30th =1.