

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH

Athletics Distinctions 2022-2023

www.longbeachstate.com

CSULB is a university of talented and diverse students that consistently ranks among the top public universities in the west (*U.S. News & World Report*) and is one of the “Best Value” public universities in the nation (*The Princeton Review’s “America’s Best Value Colleges”*). Through CSULB Athletics, students have access to women’s and men’s award-winning Division I teams, competitive athletic programs, and state-of-the-art sports facilities on a campus that is student-centered, service-oriented and globally engaged.

Prominent Rankings & Awards

Long Beach State again moved to the top of the Big West claiming the 2021-2022 Dennis Farrell Commissioner’s Cup, awarded annually to the conference institution with the most success across all sports. Long Beach State has won the cup in seven of the last 10 years.

CSULB’s Division I athletic teams surpassed the NCAA’s Academic Progress Rate (APR) minimum score, which indicates a university’s success at retaining and graduating student-athletes. LBSU is the only university in the CSU system to exceed the minimum score in all sports for the last 16 years.

Long Beach State has led Major League Baseball with the most active alumni playing at baseball’s highest level. The Dirtbags have seven former players in the big leagues, including All-Star Jeff McNeil, joining an elite list of Dirtbag greats like Jason Giambi, Evan Longoria, Troy Tulowitzki and Jered Weaver to play in multiple All-Star games.

Women’s Soccer has made seven NCAA appearances since 1998, and Women’s Softball has made 25 NCAA Tournament appearances, reaching the Women’s College World Series five times.

Alex Nikolov makes history by becoming the first freshman ever to be named AVCA National Player of the Year. He is the sixth Long Beach State Men’s Volleyball player to garner this honor.

Long Beach State Men’s Volleyball is one of the elite programs in the nation. Three-time national champions, Long Beach State won back-to-back titles in 2018 and 2019, winning the 2019 championship inside The Walter Pyramid.

Long Beach State has had a representative in every Summer Olympic Games since the founding of the University in 1949. At the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, *The Beach* had three coaches and six former student-athletes competing for USA and Mexico across seven different sports.

Men's Water Polo team won the 2021 Golden Coast Conference Tournament Championship (GCC), its second GCC tournament title, winning its first in 2018.

Holland Shourds is the 3rd Long Beach State women's golfer to advance to the 2021 NCAA Regionals, joining Kay Hoey and Cassidy Teare. Shourds is also the 4th LBSU golfer to win the individual Big West Championship.

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