

# CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH

## **Athletics Distinctions 2022-2023**

[www.longbeachstate.com](http://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 has won the Big West Commissioner’s Cup seven times, awarded to the university that has the most successful athletic department in the Big West Conference.

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 15 years.

Long Beach State has led Major League Baseball with the most active alumni playing at baseball’s highest level. Last season, the Dirtbags had seven former players in the big leagues, including All-Star Jeff McNeil and former World Series champion Matt Duffy.

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.

Men’s Volleyball won a second straight National Championship in 2019 while hosting the 50th NCAA Men’s Volleyball National Championship.

Former Long Beach State student-athletes competed at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics in Men’s Volleyball, Beach Volleyball, Baseball and Softball while current coaches Gavin Arroyo of Men’s Water Polo and LaTanya Sheffield from Track and Field also represented the USA as coaches in Tokyo. CSULB has had at least one representative in every Summer Olympic Games since 1949.

The CSULB Sailing team won all seven races at the first Pan-Pacific Intercollegiate Regatta competition in Xiamen, China.

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

CSULB Club Sports and Recreation’s competitive and non-competitive clubs offer students additional opportunities for competition, personal gain and community involvement through athleticism.

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