

John Mackey Award (JMA) Annual Selection Process

Note: The conference calls, all correspondence and votes are held in the strictest of confidence by the staff. We understand that the stature and significance of this award requires this treatment. The Commission intends to do everything in its control to insure the prominence and integrity of this award. Voting is conducted via email balloting.

Nominee Submission

1. Each year, the committee members submit the names of eight (8) nominees after notification from the NCSC and before deadline. All tight ends that meet award criteria are eligible.

Nominee List

2. NCSC Staff collects names submitted, assembles a cumulative eight (8) nominee list (aka semi-finalists list) and then distributes the semi-finalists list to committee members. The eight (8) players that receive the most nominations amongst the entire nominee pool are the eight (8) semi-finalists. Tie-breaker for semi-finalist list will be decided by committee chairman.

Conference Call Meeting

3. Committee Members Conference Call to discuss semi-finalists' suitability and qualifications for the award. (Members who cannot attend may email staff with their considerations and NCSC staff will distribute or convey those considerations to the rest of the JMA selection committee; or call staff)

Selection of Personal Top Three (3) Nominees

4. Following the conference call, a personal top three (3) from the semi-finalists list must be submitted by the selection committee, in ranked order (1st place, 2nd place, 3rd place), to the NCSC staff.

Nominee/Finalist Tabulation

5. Tabulation of the committee's Top three (3) nominees. This will be done based on the ranking order of each committee member combined by using a 5-3-1 point system (1st place vote = 5 points, 2nd = 3 points, 3rd = 1 point). The three (3) nominees with the most points will comprise the finalist list.

Distribution of Finalist List

6. A list of three (3) finalists will be distributed to the committee by NCSC staff.

Finalist Award Vote

7. Each member will then select and submit their top three (3) amongst the finalist pool, ranked in order (1st place, 2nd place, 3rd place), to the NCSC staff.

Final Vote Tabulation

8. Award winner is selected by tabulating the vote of the top three (3) finalist submissions. This will be done by using a 5-3-1 point system. (1st place vote = 5 points, 2nd = 3 points, 3rd = 1 point) The finalist with the most points at the end of this tabulation will receive the current year's John Mackey Award.

Tie Break Procedure

The following tie break procedures will be used in the event that there is a tie at the conclusion of the finalists selection round (item 5 above) and/or at the conclusion of the entire selection process (item 8 above).

1. In the event that there is a tie at the conclusion of this process, the first tiebreak will be 1st place votes received.
2. If still tied, the second tiebreak will be 2nd place votes received.
3. If still tied, the third tiebreak will be 3rd place votes received.
4. In the event that the voting still remains tied, NCSC staff will conduct a revote of the JMA committee with the remaining tiebreak candidates only.
5. If the JMA revote results in a tie, the Committee Chair will make the final decision on which candidate receives the award.

John Mackey Award Criteria

1. For John Mackey Award (JMA) and Watch List consideration a player should be a “true tight end” in the style of John Mackey, play on the interior line with blocking responsibilities and possess the potential to play tight end on the professional level.
2. The JMA Selection Committee also considers other John Mackey qualities including, but not limited to, positive sportsmanship, good academic standing and leadership on and off the field.
3. As a rule, candidates that play at other positions (i.e. slot or split receivers, halfbacks or wide outs) more than at tight end, are not generally regarded “true tight ends” for JMA Selection Committee’s purposes. However, John Mackey Award Selection Committee members may nominate any player for the award, who in their estimation is worthy of consideration.
4. Towards the end of the regular college football season, the JMA committee members nominate candidates for consideration and the JMA Award winner is determined by committee voting.
5. The John Mackey Tight End of the Week, recognizing solely on-field receiving performance, is an honor distinct and different from the annual John Mackey Award. The Tight End of the Week acknowledgment has no formal significance on the final John Mackey Award selection process, however the JMA position qualifications also apply to the Tight End of the Week honor.