



IOWA HAWKEYES

WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

2021 SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 15	at Minnesota (BTN)	3:30 p.m.
Jan. 23	Ohio State	7 p.m.
Jan. 29	at Illinois	TBA
Feb. 6	Minnesota	1 p.m.
Feb. 13	Maryland	1 p.m.
Feb. 19	at Nebraska	TBA
Feb. 26	at Big Five Meet	TBA
March 6	Illinois	1 p.m.
March 12	at Nebraska	TBA
March 20	at Big Ten Championships (TBA)	TBA
April 1	NCAA Regionals (TBA)	TBA
April 16	at NCAA Championships (Fort Worth, Texas)	

All times Central and subject to change.

hawkeyesports.com

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#25 IOWA HAWKEYES

HEAD COACH | LARISSA LIBBY (17TH SEASON)

#11 MINNESOTA GOLDEN GOPHERS

HEAD COACH | JENNY HANSEN (7TH SEASON)

THIS WEEK

The 25th-ranked University of Iowa women's gymnastics team opens the 2021 season Friday in Minneapolis, facing 11th-ranked Minnesota at 3:30 p.m. (CT) at the Maturi Pavilion. The meet will be televised on BTN.

FOLLOW LIVE

- Friday's season opener will be televised on BTN with Dean Link (play-by-play) and Olivia Karas (color) on the call.
- Fans can follow along via live results at hawkeyesports.com.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- The Hawkeyes are ranked 25th in the WGCA preseason poll. Iowa is one of nine Big Ten teams in the rankings or receiving votes.
- Iowa was selected to finish fourth in the Big Ten Preseason Poll.
- Iowa returns 12 letterwinners in 2021, including two gymnasts who have received All-Big Ten recognition in their careers. Junior Lauren Guerin was a first-team selection in 2020, while senior Clair Kaji garnered first-team honors in 2019 and second-team honors in 2017.
- Guerin posted a 9.950 on floor three times during the 2020 season. The score is tied for the third-best score in program history.
- Iowa closed out the 2020 season with its two highest scores prior to the season being canceled because of the global coronavirus pandemic. The Hawkeyes scored a 196.425 in an Iowa Corn Cy-Hawk Series victory over Iowa State on March 6 before scoring a season-high 196.750 two days later in a win over West Virginia.
- The Hawkeyes have seven newcomers on the roster, including Adeline Kenlin and Kendall Laplante. Kenlin was named to the 2017 Junior U.S National Team, where she helped lead the team to a gold medal, finishing fourth in the all-around. Laplante joined the team in December after graduating early from high school. She was a two-time Florida state beam champion, a vault champion, and a two-time national qualifier.

RETURNING ALL-AMERICAN

Junior Lauren Guerin ended her sophomore season as a second-team WGCA All-American. Guerin was the fifth Hawkeye to garner All-America distinction joining Stephanie Gran, Alexis Maday, Rebecca Simbhudas, and Mollie Drenth in Hawkeye history.

- Guerin has earned All-Big Ten honors (first-team in 2020; second-team in 2019) in each of her first two seasons.





Larissa Libby enters her 17th year as head coach, and 21st year overall, at the University of Iowa in the 2021 season.

During her tenure in Iowa City, the Hawkeyes have been a consistent top 25 team nationally, as she has led the program to 19 straight NCAA Regional appearances (individually or as a team).

The two-time Big Ten and two-time NCAA Regional Coach of the Year has coached six WGCA All-Americans and five first-team All-Americans at the NCAA Championships, including national champion Alexis Maday. Maday was the Big Ten Freshman of the Year in 2001 and the Big Ten Gymnast of the Year in 2004.

Libby has coached 11 Big Ten champions, four NCAA Regional champions, 10 NCAA Championships qualifiers, while 45 student-athletes have earned All-Big Ten honors, including 22 first-team selections.

The Hawkeyes have also excelled in the classroom and has had a strong community presence under Libby's watch. Forty-eight student-athletes have been Academic All-Americans.

During the 2020 season, the Hawkeyes climbed as high as No. 25 in the national rankings before the season was cancelled because of the global coronavirus pandemic. Lauren Guerin earned second-team All-America and first-team All-Big Ten honors at season's end.

In 2019, Libby led the GymHawks to a No. 31 national ranking and Big Five session victory. Iowa defeated Arizona in the opening round of the Corvallis Regional behind a 49.200 floor score, but bowed out of the regional in the second round. An influx of young talent provided a spark for the team. Junior Clair Kaji garnered first-team All-Big Ten honors, while senior Nicole Chow and Guerin were second-team selections.

2 NAMED TO B1G GYMNAST WATCH LIST

- Two Hawkeye underclassmen - sophomore JerQuavia Henderson and freshman Adeline Kenlin -- have been named to the Big Ten Gymnast to Watch List. It is the second straight season Henderson has been included on the watch list.
- Henderson missed the 2020 season with an Achilles injury.

IN THE RECORD BOOKS

Three Hawkeyes enter the 2021 in the Iowa record books. They are as follows:

- Clair Kaji - t2nd - 9.950 - Beam
- Lauren Guerin - t3rd - 9.950 - Floor
- Allyson Steffensmeier - 6th - 9.925 - Uneven Bars
- Lauren Guerin - 9th - 9.925 - Vault
- Lauren Guerin - t11 - 9.925 - Floor
- Clair Kaji - t11 - 9.925 - Floor
- Clair Kaji - t14th - 9.900 - Beam
- Clair Kaji - t15th - 9.900 - Uneven Bars

HAWKEYE HOMECOMING

Following a four-year stint as an assistant coach at UC Davis, former Hawkeye Jessa Hansen Parker has returned to Iowa City as an assistant coach. Hansen Parker was a four-year letterwinner at Iowa from 2008-12 where she earned two All-Big Ten, three Academic All-Big Ten, and two Big Ten Sportsmanship Award honors.

19 & COUNTING

Head coach Larissa Libby has led GymHawks to 19 straight NCAA Regional appearances (either as a team or individually). The 2021 season is Libby's 17th as Iowa's head coach and 21st overall with the program.

FOLLOW THE HAWKEYES

For a behind the scenes look at the program, follow the GymHawks via social media at Facebook/[IowaGymnastics](https://www.facebook.com/IowaGymnastics), Twitter/[@IowaGymnastics](https://twitter.com/IowaGymnastics), and Instagram ([@IowaGymnastics](https://www.instagram.com/IowaGymnastics)).

UP NEXT

The Hawkeyes will host Ohio State in their home opener on Jan. 23 at 7 p.m. (CT) inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena.



Name	Pos.	Yr.	Hometown/High School (Last School)
Dani Castillo	AA	So.	Miami, Fla./Monarch
Erin Castle	AA	Sr.	Boone, Iowa/Boone
Giovanna Deo	AA	Fr.	Santa Clarita, Calif./Saugus
Allie Gilchrist	V, BB, F	Jr.	Norwalk, Iowa/Norwalk
Alex Greenwald	AA	Jr.	Coral Springs, Fla./Marjory Stoneman Douglas
Lauren Guerin	V, BB, F	Jr.	Austin, Texas/Texas Connections Academy
Emma Hartzler	AA	Sr.	Marion, Iowa/Linn Mar
JerQuavia Henderson	AA	So.	Peoria, Ill./Dunlap
Sophia Hunzelman	AA	Fr.	Chesterton, Ind./Chesterton
Clair Kaji	UE Bars, BB, F	Sr.	Vancouver, Canada/Magee Secondary
Adeline Kenlin	AA	Fr.	Iowa City, Iowa/West Branch
Bridget Killian	AA	Jr.	Wheaton, Ill./St. Francis
Caelen Lansing	AA	Fr.	La Crosse, Wis./Central
Kendall Laplante	AA	Fr.	Seminole, Fla./Seminole
Kareena Mcsweeny	AA	Fr.	Cedar Rapids, Iowa/Abeka
Aubrey Nick	AA	Fr.	Wauconda, Ill./Wauconda
Ellie Rogers	AA	So.	Spotsylvania, Pa./Courtland
Allyson Steffensmeier	AA	So.	Cedar Rapids, Iowa/John F. Kennedy
Carina Tolan	AA	Jr.	Tinley Park, Ill./Providence Catholic
Mackenzie Vance	AA	Jr.	Buda, Texas/Jack C. Hays

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Larissa Libby (17th season, LSU, 1996)

Assistant Coach: Vince Smurro (5th season, Illinois, 2013)

Assistant Coach: Jessa Hansen Parker (1st season, University of Iowa, 2012)

Graduate Assistant: Ryan Ruckdaschel

Volunteer Assistant: Rachel David

Student Manager: Carter Dochterman

Athletic Trainer: Emily Link

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Giovanna **Deo** _____ Dee-0

Allie **Gilchrist** _____ Gill-Crest

Lauren **Guerin** _____ Gair (like hair)-in

JerQuavia Henderson _____ Jer-kwae-via

Clair **Kaji** _____ Kah-gee

ROSTER BREAKDOWN

Class: Freshmen (7), Sophomores (4), Juniors (6), Seniors (3)

State: Iowa (6), Illinois (4), Florida (3), Texas (2), California (1), Indiana (1), Canada (1), Wisconsin (1), Pennsylvania (1)





Dani Castillo | So. | AA



Erin Castle | Sr. | AA



Giovanna Deo | Fr. | AA



Allie Gilchrist | Jr. | V/BB/F



Alex Greenwald | Jr. | AA



Lauren Guerin | Jr. | V/BB/F



Emma Hartzler | Sr. | AA



JerQuavia Henderson | So. | AA



Sophia Hunzelman | Fr. | AA



Clair Kaji | Sr., | UE Bars/BB/F



Adeline Kenlin | Fr. | AA



Bridget Killian | Jr. | AA



Caelen Lansing | Fr. | AA



Kendall Laplante | Fr. | AA



Kareena Mcsweeny | Fr. | AA



Aubrey Nick | Fr. | AA



Ellie Rogers | So. | AA



Allyson Steffensmeier | So. | AA



Carina Tolan | Jr. | AA



Mackenzie Vance | So. | AA



Larissa Libby
Head Coach



Vince Smurro
Assistant Coach



Jessa Hansen Parker
Assistant Coach

