OUR GAME. OUR COMMUNITY. OUR FUTURE.



WBCA DIVISION I TOWN HALL JANUARY 21, 2021

WHAT UNITES **OUR** COMMUNITY

EAMWORK

We define success in terms of what we accomplish together.

NCLUSION

We embrace diversity and celebrate differences.

PASSION We aspire to be the best we can be in all we do.

EXCELLENCE

We succeed in education, basketball and our lives.

INTEGRITY

We honor and respect the game and each other.



Key Topics

- 2021 Regular season overview.
- 2021 Championship planning.
- Committee action due to COVID impact on 2021 championship policies and selection, seeding and bracketing principles and procedures.





2021 Regular Season Overview





2021 Championship Update



2021 Championship Planning Update

Championship planning in one geographic area is focused on the San Antonio region.

- Limits travel.
- Provides a safe and controlled environment including:
 - Competition and practice venues.
 - Lodging for teams.
 - Consistent medical resources and protocol.
- Anticipated timeline.



2021 Championship Planning Update

Schedule:

- National Semifinals and National Championship to remain on established dates of Friday, April 2 and Sunday, April 4.
- Game dates and times TBD.



COVID Impact on 2021 Championship Policies

- Championship Eligibility:
 - 13 game minimum.
 - Must be against DI opponents.
 - One (1) conference tournament game may count toward the 13 game minimum.
 - Waiver can be submitted if 13 games not met.
- Team Travel Party 34 individuals.



COVID Impact on 2021 Selection, Seeding and Bracketing Policies and Procedures

- As <u>AQs decrease, at-large allocations increase</u> to maintain a traditional bracket size of 64.
- Waive the .500 rule for at-large selection requiring teams to have overall won-lost records of .500 or better.
- Remove references to using geography for placing teams into the bracket.



Team Selection Criteria/Priorities

(in alphabetical order)

- Availability of talent
- Bad losses
- Common opponents
- Competitive in losses
- Conference record
- Early competition versus late competition
- Head to head

• NET

- Non-conference record
- Overall record
- Regional rankings
- Strength of schedule

2019-24 STRATEGIC PLAN

- Significant wins
- Strength of conference

Key Date Reminders

Monday, February 8 – Friday February 26.

Championship eligibility waivers accepted.

- Monday, February 15 and Monday, March 1.
 Top 16 Reveals.
- Friday, February 26.

AQ requirements due from conferences.

• Selection Monday, March 15.

Bracket announcement at 7 p.m. ET on ESPN.



Questions?

Contact Meredith Cleaver, Director, NCAA Women's Basketball <u>mcleaver@ncaa.org</u>



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