



# **2021 NCAA<sup>®</sup> Division I Women's Basketball Media Information**

*Updated March 7, 2021*

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# WELCOME

San Antonio and the surrounding region will play host to the 2021 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship.

The tournament will feature 64 teams competing from March 21 through April 4 to earn the right to hoist the national championship trophy at the Alamodome, the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee announced Friday.

Six championship rounds featuring 63 games will be played using five venues and six courts in San Antonio, Austin and San Marcos, Texas, with the Alamodome hosting two of those courts.

Following announcement of the 64 teams that will be participating in the 2021 championship (Selection Monday, March 15, 7 p.m. ET on ESPN), first-round play will take place March 21-22 at the Alamodome, Bill Greehey Arena on the campus of St. Mary's (Texas), Frank Erwin Center (Texas), University Events Center (Texas State) and the UTSA Convocation Center. Second-round play will shift entirely to venues in San Antonio, with the Alamodome, Bill Greehey Arena and the UTSA Convocation Center playing host March 23-24.

The championship will shift to the Alamodome for all remaining rounds, with the Sweet 16 games played March 27-28, Elite Eight games held March 29-30 and the Women's Final Four conducted April 2 and 4.

Go to [ncaa.com](http://ncaa.com) for the latest news, game information, health and safety protocols, ticket information, etc.

The championship is under the direction of the [NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee](#).

The complete list of [Division I Women's Basketball Media Policies](#) is available to review.

## KEY CONTACTS

### Media Coordination Contacts

#### NCAA Staff/Women's Final Four

First	Last	Email	Cell Phone
Rick	Nixon	<a href="mailto:rnixon@ncaa.org">rnixon@ncaa.org</a>	317-440-3059
Sahar	Abdur-Rashid	<a href="mailto:srashid@ncaa.org">srashid@ncaa.org</a>	317-459-3272
Michelle	Watsky	<a href="mailto:mwatsky@ncaa.org">mwatsky@ncaa.org</a>	317-437-4705

#### Preliminary Rounds

Site	Name	Email	Cell Phone
St. Mary's	Chad Peters	<a href="mailto:cpeters@stmarytx.edu">cpeters@stmarytx.edu</a>	210-857-9447

<b>Site</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Cell Phone</b>
St. Mary's	Tom Norris	<a href="mailto:tnorris2@stmarytx.edu">tnorris2@stmarytx.edu</a>	574-303-8229
Texas (St. Edward's)	Cody Jones	<a href="mailto:cjones23@stedwards.edu">cjones23@stedwards.edu</a>	623-363-6625
Texas (Concordia)	Joe Fisher	<a href="mailto:Joe.Fisher@concordia.edu">Joe.Fisher@concordia.edu</a>	281-685-9921
Texas State	Rick Poulter	<a href="mailto:rpoulter@txstate.edu">rpoulter@txstate.edu</a>	512-738-0697
Texas State	Chris Brown	<a href="mailto:cab548@txstate.edu">cab548@txstate.edu</a>	256-453-1360
UTSA	Kyle Stephens	<a href="mailto:Kyle.Stephens@utsa.edu">Kyle.Stephens@utsa.edu</a>	210-887-3636
UIW	Margie Olivares	<a href="mailto:maoliva4@uiwtx.edu">maoliva4@uiwtx.edu</a>	915-539-3039

## MEDIA ACCESS

Note that for the 2021 championship all interviews will be conducted virtually. All media seating will be located on the concourse level at hosting sites. Media will not have access to the playing level or locker rooms at any time.

If you are not able to cover the championship games in person, note that this year we are offering virtual credentials which will enable you access all of the needed coverage materials from afar, including team information, game notes, box scores, game books, quote sheets, pressers, etc.

## COVID-19 TESTING

All media credentialed to cover the 2021 DI Women's Basketball Championship will receive Tier 4 credentials. Being Tier 4 means that media will be in the **non-tested group and will not** be required to undergo any daily or weekly COVID testing in order to cover the games. Those credentialed will be subject to a temperature check on arrival at the respective host venues.

## CREDENTIALS

**Due to state, local and NCAA COVID protocols, a limited number of credentialed media covering on-site is mandated this year.** Credentials will be requested and issued on a game-by-game basis based on limited seating availability at each venue. Wristbands will be required for each game being covered and may be picked up at the hosting venue on game days only. A new wristband is required for each game, including for consecutive games at a single venue. The credentials issued for team media covering games on-site will be good **only for the games in which that team competes**. A photo ID is required and you may NOT pick up a credential for anyone else.

Credential criteria for the 2021 championship can be found [here](#).

Media desiring credentials to cover games, regardless of which teams are competing at the site, must apply at <https://www.ncaa.com/media-credentials>.

If a media agency plans to attend **ONLY** if the team they regularly cover is participating and advancing, **DO NOT** complete this online application. In order to be eligible for credentials, you must appear on the team media list that each institution will submit for the **2021 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship**. The online site provides information for reservations at the media headquarters hotel in San Antonio and parking passes. Applying media representatives will be notified via e-mail regarding the confirmation or denial of their application.

Team media lists for the 2021 championship first and second rounds will need to be submitted by the respective participating team sports information contact **before 5 p.m. Eastern time Wednesday, March 17**. The team sports information contact will work directly with their team media to identify coverage should the team advance (i.e. from second-round to a regional semifinal, etc.).

## **Credential Distribution Hours of Operations**

Due to the requirement of credentials within the controlled environment to be shown at all times, credentials and wristbands will **ONLY** be available for pick-up at the start of each game day. **NOTE:** Each round of the championship will feature a new credential.

### **Preliminary Rounds - Host Venue Distribution**

First-Round/Regional Semifinal Game Day	45 minutes before tipoff of first game until start of second period
Second-Round/Regional Final Game Day	45 minutes before tipoff until start of second period

### **Women's Final Four – Alamodome Credential Distribution**

Day	Credential Pick-Up Times	Location
Friday, April 2	When doors open to the general public before national semifinals, time TBA – start of second period, second game	Alamodome West 50 Plaza Entrance
Sunday, April 4	When doors open to the general public before national championship game, time TBA – start of second period	Alamodome West 50 Plaza Entrance

## **Venue Information (Including) Parking/Entrances/Credential Distribution Location**

### **Alamodome**

- **Entrance/Credential Distribution:** The West 50 Plaza Entrance is the media entrance and credential distribution area.

- **Parking:** Media with approved parking passes will park in Lot C and will enter through ACP B on the North Plaza on game days then walk to West 50/GATE #10 to enter. Upon arrival, signage from the media parking lot to the West 50 Plaza Entrance will guide media to the entrance and then from credential distribution to the media seating area on the concourse level.

### **Bill Greehey Arena - St. Mary's University (Texas)**

- [Information](#)
- [Directions](#)
- Parking
- Credential Distribution

### **Frank Erwin Center - University Of Texas at Austin**

- [Information](#)
- Directions
- Parking
- Credential Distribution

### **University Events Center - Texas State University**

- [Information](#)
- [Directions](#)
- Parking
- Credential Distribution

### **UTSA Convocation Center**

- [Information](#)
- [Directions](#)
- **Entrance and Parking:** The media entrance will be located at the main entrance to the UTSA Convocation Center and marked by signage for the appropriate door. Media members will use the stairs from the main lobby to the second floor to access media seating and work areas. An accessible elevator is available upon request. Media may park in any unmarked space in Brackenridge Avenue Lots 1 & 2 located in front of the Convocation Center. No parking pass is required on game days.
- **Credential Distribution:** Credential distribution will be located inside the main lobby.

# **MEDIA LOGISTICS**

## **Media Headquarters Hotel**

If you require lodging while covering the championship, The Menger and Emily Morgan hotels are available. The NCAA block at each begins March 16 through April 4. There are no room night minimums. See booking links below, with all reservations due **by March 10, 2021**. If you have any issues booking your hotel, please contact Rick Nixon.

Hotel: [The Menger](#)

Address: 204 Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, Texas 78205

Rate: \$94.00 + tax

Telephone: 210-223-4361

Booking Link: <https://res.windsurfercrs.com/ibe/details.aspx?propertyid=16589&nights=1&checkin=03/16/2021&group=031621NCAAMED>

Hotel: [Emily Morgan](#)

Address: 705 E Houston St, San Antonio, TX 78205

Rate: \$159.00 + tax

Telephone: 210-225-5100

Booking Link: <http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/S/SATEMDT-WNC-20210316/index.jhtml>

## **Shuttles**

A media shuttle **WILL NOT** be available for the 2021 championship.

## **Meals**

A pre-packaged media meal and canned/bottled beverages will be provided near the media seating area.

## **Media Information**

Limited printing will be conducted on-site, even though each host facility will provide an area where each participating institution's sports information contact can provide a limited number of printed team materials. Championship media materials and information, including pressers, team/conference game notes and all in-game materials including box scores, game books, quotes, notes etc. will be provided via an NCAA Box account that will be provided to all credentialed on-site and virtual media.

## **Print Photography and Courtesy Handout Images**

The only entities that may receive a photo credential for the 2021 Division I Women's Basketball Championship are NCAA Photos, Getty, Associated Press, ESPN Images, San Antonio Express-News and USA Today. Only NCAA Photos and Getty will receive floor spots. The Associated Press, ESPN Images, USA Today and the San Antonio Express-News may receive a maximum of two upper-level credentials in each venue. If participating institutions elect to have a team photographer as part of the official team travel party, that individual will be in Tier 1 and will be assigned a spot near their team bench. Otherwise, the team photographer should be included as part of the team media list and will be assigned to an upper-level location in Tier 4.

NCAA Photos (also known as Clarkson Creative Photography) will be on site from the Sweet 16 through the Women's Final Four, providing 10-15 fully captioned Courtesy Handout Images within two hours of the completion of the event to be shared with member institutions, media and the NCAA via the [NCAA Digital Media Hub](#).

Except with the prior written approval of the NCAA, no photographer, news entity, media agency or other individual or entity receiving a credential hereunder may sell photos of the Division I Women's Basketball Championship. Click here for [NCAA Championships Photography Terms & Conditions](#).

## **Pool Reporter**

A pool reporter will be identified by the host media coordinator. When a game includes a potential fighting situation that results in a technical foul and/or ejection of a participant, a rules interpretation is requested or there is a clock or timing issue, the pool reporter will be allowed to reach out to the officials' locker room to receive an interpretation. All media questions in this regard should be directed to the pool reporter who will work with the host media coordinator to provide a written statement to the media following the game.

## **Satellite Truck Parking**

Satellite truck parking will be available as space permits. Please contact the host media coordinator in advance for full details and to arrange parking.

## **Telecommunications**

Complimentary wireless services and access codes will be provided to all credentialed individuals. Media, including originating radio networks, may order individual telephone and high-speed data services, at their own expense, by contacting the host media coordinator who will provide the telecommunications order form.



## **Statbroadcast Real Time Stats Feed**

StatBroadcast® Live web and mobile stats for media are available via your laptop or by phone. Instructions, on how to access along with link and password will be provided on site.

# **MEDIA INTERVIEW POLICIES**

Virtual press conferences will be conducted on the day before each game, beginning with the second-round, and immediately after each game, all rounds. The host media coordinator will have the authority to request any student-athlete to attend any press conference, but should work with the participating institution's head coach and media relations contact, as well as a designated pool reporter representing the United States Basketball Writers Association to select postgame press conference participants. Each participating institution shall make head coach and student-athletes available at all scheduled press conferences. All interviews at the facility shall occur in the designated media interview space being managed by Hammond Communications.

### **Telephone Interviews**

Coaches and student-athletes not participating in the postgame virtual press conference may conduct phone interviews as soon as the cooling-off period expires.

### **Distribution**

Zoom links will be provided in advance for all championship press conferences. All press conferences will be recorded and distributed on the NCAA Digital Media Hub (<https://ncaa.veritone.com/>). Press conferences will be streamed live to YouTube beginning with the regional semifinal rounds and continuing through the Women's Final Four.

## **Locker Rooms**

Locker rooms during the championship will be closed at all times to credentialed media.

## **Press Conferences Day Prior To Games**

### **Day Before Second-Round**

Each coach and one student-athlete from each team will participate in virtual press conferences.

### **Regional Semifinals and Regional Finals**

Each coach and one student-athlete from each team will participate in virtual press conferences.

### **Wednesday and Thursday Before National Semifinals**

The head coach and two student-athletes from each team will participate in virtual press conferences.

### **Day Before National Championship Game**

The head coach and two student-athletes from each team will be required to participate in virtual press conferences.

## **Postgame Press Conferences**

### **Cooling-Off Period**

The cooling-off period for all rounds of the championships is 10 minutes for both teams. At their discretion, a coach may shorten the cooling-off period, but may not extend it. The cooling-off period begins when the head coach reaches the locker room area after the game.

### **First/Second Rounds**

ESPN may interview the winning coach and selected players after the game. The interview shall not exceed four minutes. Each team will receive a 10-minute cooling-off period.

#### **For sites with *four-or-more* hours between games**

The head coach of the losing team and one student-athlete from the winning team shall be escorted to their respective interview rooms first for a virtual postgame press conference not to exceed 10 minutes. When that press conference concludes, the winning team's coach and a student-athlete from the losing team shall enter their team interview room for a virtual postgame press conference not to exceed 10 minutes.

#### **For sites with *less than four* hours between games**

Because of the time needed to properly clean team areas between games, if there are less than four hours between tipoff of games at a site, only the head coach interview will take place following a game. The head coach of the losing team and the head coach from the winning team shall be escorted to their respective interview rooms for a virtual postgame press conference not to exceed 10 minutes.

Upon conclusion of the press conferences, the coach and players shall return to the locker room. Coaches and student-athletes not participating in the postgame virtual press conferences may conduct phone interviews as soon as the cooling-off period expires.

### **Regional Semifinals**

ESPN may interview the winning coach and selected players after the game. The interview shall not exceed four minutes. After a 10-minute cooling-off period, the head coach of the losing team and one student-athlete from the winning team shall be escorted to their respective interview rooms for a virtual postgame press conference not to exceed 10 minutes. When that press conference concludes, the winning team's coach and a student-athlete from the losing team shall enter their team interview room for a virtual postgame press conference not to exceed 10 minutes.

## **Regional Championship Games**

The losing team will appear in the news conference first, after a 10-minute cooling-off period. After the cooling-off period expires, the head coach shall be escorted to the interview room first for a postgame press conference not to exceed 12 minutes. When that concludes, one student-athlete will enter the team's interview room for a press conference not to exceed 12 minutes. Upon conclusion of the press conference the coach and players shall return to the locker room.

The winning team shall have a five-minute cooling-off period that begins when its coach reaches the locker room area after on-court media obligations with ESPN and presentation of the regional championship trophy. Upon conclusion of the cooling-off period, the head coach shall be escorted to the interview room for a press conference not to exceed 12 minutes. When that concludes, one student-athlete will enter the team's interview room for a press conference not to exceed 12 minutes.

Upon conclusion of the press conference the coach and players shall return to the locker room. Coaches and student-athletes not participating in the postgame virtual press conference may conduct phone interviews as soon as the cooling-off period expires.

## **National Semifinals**

ESPN may conduct interviews with the head coach and a player from the winning team after the game, after which they will be escorted to their locker room. After a 10-minute cooling-off period, the head coach of the losing team and one student-athlete from the winning team shall be escorted to their respective interview rooms for a virtual postgame press conference not to exceed 12 minutes. When that press conference concludes, the winning team's coach and a student-athlete from the losing team shall enter their team interview room for a virtual postgame press conference not to exceed 12 minutes. Upon conclusion of the press conference the coach and players shall return to the locker room.

Coaches and student-athletes not participating in the postgame virtual press conference may conduct phone interviews as soon as the cooling-off period expires.

## **National Championship Game**

The losing team will appear in the news conference first, after a 10-minute cooling-off period. After the cooling-off period expires, the head coach shall be escorted to the interview room for a postgame press conference not to exceed 15 minutes. When that concludes, one student-athlete will enter the team's interview room for a press conference not to exceed 15 minutes. Upon conclusion of the press conference the coach and players shall return to the locker room.

The winning team shall have a five-minute cooling-off period that begins when its coach enters the locker room after on-court media obligations with ESPN and Westwood One and the national championship trophy presentation. ESPN will have the first choice of individuals to interview, followed by Westwood One. Upon conclusion of the cooling-off period, the head coach shall be escorted to the interview room for a virtual press conference not to exceed 15 minutes. When that concludes, one student-athlete will enter the team's interview room for a press conference not to exceed 15 minutes. Coaches and student-athletes not participating in the postgame virtual press conference may conduct phone interviews as soon as the cooling-off period expires.

**Press Conference Format**

The following schedule should be used as a guideline for press conferences. The coach shall make an opening statement that should last for a maximum of two minutes. Once completed, the virtual moderator shall open the press conference for questions to the interviewee.

**Obligation of Coach**

Regardless of any personal regular-season radio or television contracts, the coach is first obligated to the entire media staffing the tournament and must report to the interview room immediately after the cooling off period ends.

**Participating Student-Athletes**

The sports information director, working with the head coach, host media coordinator and a designated pool reporter representing the USBWA, shall designate a student-athlete to participate in the postgame press conference. Primary consideration will be given to student-athletes who had the biggest impact on the game.

**Participating Institution Radio**

Team radio should apply for credentials through the team media list being submitted by the participating team sports information contact. A maximum of three (3) seats located on the concourse level shall be reserved for each participating institution’s radio network. Team radio will not be allowed courtside. All stations intending to broadcast any game of the championship must complete a radio agreement and submit it before the game that will be broadcast. No exclusive rights shall be granted, except in those instances when a participating institution requests such rights for a station or network that contracted for exclusive coverage of the institution’s regular-season games. Such exclusive rights shall be restricted to the markets in which exclusivity existed during the regular season. If more than one institution has radio stations in the same market, exclusive rights shall not be granted in that market. All rights fees must be paid to the NCAA’s radio rightsholder in advance. Stations will be charged for each game broadcast. If the originating station, or any station within the network intends to stream the broadcast over the Internet via its station’s Website or any other third-party website, an additional fee will be charged. The station streaming the broadcast is required to supply a link of its audio player to the official NCAA Championships website, [ncaa.com](http://ncaa.com).

**ESPN COVERAGE OF  
CHAMPIONSHIP**

In addition to ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU coverage, for the first time since the 1995 championship was carried on CBS, portions of the tournament will be carried by a broadcast network, as ABC is scheduled to carry at least six tournament games. ABC will broadcast a doubleheader on the opening day of play — Sunday, March 21 — and carry additional doubleheaders during the Sweet Sixteen on Saturday, March 27, and Sunday, March 28.

First-round play will take place March 21-22 at the Alamodome, Bill Greehey Arena on the campus of St. Mary’s (Texas), Frank Erwin Center (Texas), University Events Center (Texas State) and the UTSA Con-

vocation Center. Games on March 21 will tip off at noon Eastern time and can be seen on ABC, ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU. Coverage on March 22 will start at noon on ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU.

Second-round play will be held entirely at venues in San Antonio, with the Alamodome, Bill Greehey Arena and the UTSA Convocation Center playing host March 23-24. ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU will broadcast second-round games.

The championship will come to the Alamodome for all remaining rounds, with the Sweet Sixteen games played March 27-28 and carried on ABC, ESPN and ESPN2. ESPN will air all the Elite Eight games, which will be March 29-30.

The Women's Final Four will be April 2 and 4. National semifinal games will tip off at 6 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Eastern time on ESPN, with the national championship game at 6 p.m. on ESPN.

This year will mark the 26th straight year that ESPN has served as the championship's TV home. All games will be available online via the ESPN app.

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Below are the sites, dates and game numbers by court for the 2021 NCAA Division Women's Basketball Championship. Matchups and game times will be announced on Selection Monday, March 15 at 7 p.m. ET on ESPN.

2021 championship bracket can be found [here](#).

## **First-Round - March 21**

- Alamodome Court 1 – 3 Games
- Alamodome Court 2 – 3 Games
- Bill Greehey Arena (St. Mary's University) – 3 Games
- UTSA Convocation Center – 1 Game
- University Events Center (Texas State University) – 3 Games
- Frank Erwin Center (University of Texas, Austin) – 3 Games

## **First-Round - March 22**

- Alamodome Court 1 – 3 Games
- Alamodome Court 2 – 3 Games
- Bill Greehey Arena (St. Mary's University) – 3 Games
- UTSA Convocation Center – 1 Game
- University Events Center (Texas State University) – 3 Games
- Frank Erwin Center (University of Texas, Austin) – 3 Games

## **Second-Round - March 23**

- Alamodome Court 1 – 2 Games
- Alamodome Court 2 – 2 Games

- Bill Greehey Arena (St. Mary's University) – 2 Games
- UTSA Convocation Center – 2 Games

### **Second-Round - March 24**

- Alamodome Court 1 – 2 Games
- Alamodome Court 2 – 2 Games
- Bill Greehey Arena (St. Mary's University) – 2 Games
- UTSA Convocation Center – 2 Games

### **Sweet Sixteen - March 27**

- Alamodome Court 1 – 2 Games
- Alamodome Court 2 – 2 Games

### **Sweet Sixteen - March 28**

- Alamodome Court 1 – 2 Games
- Alamodome Court 2 – 2 Games

### **Elite Eight - March 29**

- Alamodome Court 1 – 1 Game
- Alamodome Court 2 – 1 Game

### **Elite Eight - March 30**

- Alamodome Court 1 – 1 Game
- Alamodome Court 2 – 1 Game

### **Women's Final Four – National Semifinals – April 2**

- Alamodome Court 1 – 2 Games

### **Women's Final Four – National Championship – April 4**

- Alamodome Court 1 – 1 Game

# **2021 NCAA BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP LOGO LIBRARY**

If you are in need of an NCAA logo, including Women's Final Four and other championship logos, visit the NCAA Digital Library [here](#).

# **SOCIAL MEDIA**

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Championship Websites: <http://www.ncaa.com/sports/basketball-women/d1>

Women's Final Four Website: <http://www.ncaa.com/womensfinalfour>

Twitter: [@ncaawbb](https://twitter.com/ncaawbb)

Facebook: [NCAA Women's Basketball](https://www.facebook.com/NCAAWomenBasketball)

Instagram: [@ncaawbb](https://www.instagram.com/ncaawbb)

Snapchat: ncaawbb

First and Second Rounds and Regionals Hashtag: #ncaaW

Women's Final Four Hashtag: #WFinalFour

