

**Important 2023 Dates**

**Selection Day:**

Sunday, May 14(hours after NCAA Selections)

**Play Dates:**

Thursday, May 18 thru Sunday, May 21

**Tournament History**

The National Invitation Softball Championships (NISC) returns for its fifth year, offering a postseason opportunity for dozens of talented D-I softball programs. In 2020 and 2021, the tournament was not held due to COVID 19 Pandemic. In 2022, Baylor University was crowned Champions.

**Tournament Format**

The Postseason National Invitation Softball Championship is an annual event for women's NCAA Division I softball involving 8-12 women's Division I softball teams in a two round double elimination to 4-team single elimination format played over consecutive days. All NISC games are played on two diamonds at TC Colorado Field in Fort Collins, Colorado, the14’er Stadium Field and Horsetooth Field

**Tournament Authority**

The National Invitation Softball Championship is operated, supervised, and directed by Triple Crown Sports (TCS) and College Sports Eval (CSE), a sports event company based in Fort Collins, Colorado.

**Event Fundamentals and Selection Process**

* Prior to selection day, ALL schools can submit their participation agreement to play in the event.
* From the participation agreements returned, the NISC will select the top 8-12 schools not playing in the NCAA tournament.

The intention of the NISC Selection Committee is to select the best available teams in the nation, regardless of conference affiliation or geographical location. The field will be announced late Sunday, May 14.  All information will be disseminated via the website at [**www.womensnisc.com**](http://www.womensnisc.com/) that night, after the NCAA bracket is announced.

**Selecting Teams:**

Any team from a Division I conference, or an independent Division I team, shall be considered. Overall record includes conference tournament games.

* Any team with an NCAA RPI of 1-100 will be considered for the NISC, regardless of overall record.
* Anyone with an RPI of 101+ must have an overall record of .500 or better to be considered.
* The NISC committee will use the NCAA Softball Final RPI, win/loss record, last 10 games played, key injuries or additions, consideration of teams with 30+ wins, and other pertinent information gathered on all considered teams.

**Basic Costs to the School**

* **School will cover the cost of airfare/flights, Bus/Ground Transportation and Meals. Lodging will be paid upfront by the school, but each school can submit for reimbursement on up to 15 hotel rooms.**
	+ The NISC will cover the cost of lodging up to $8,000.
	+ A rental car for the coach (up to $500) and all games costs including streaming services.
		- Additional balance of lodging will be at the expense of the school.

**Air and Bus/Ground Transportaion Responsibilities**

* All travel arrangements for **air/flight transportation** and **ground transportation** (bus/van/car) are the responsibility of each school, including all expenses.
* Schools can use their own travel coordinator to book all things air and ground transportation.
	+ If you need additional assistance, you may contact Vista Travel. They do all of our air travel for the Postseason WNIT.
		- Peter Scocca, 732-453-2155, peter.scocca@frosch.com
* Listed below are the Charter Bus companies that operate out of DIA.
* Also popular is NOCO Party Bus & Charters (used by University of Northern Colorado for visiting schools) [www.nocopartybus.com](http://www.nocopartybus.com), 970-235-0690
* For a full list of rental car companies and transit options at DIA, [www.flydenver.com](http://www.flydenver.com)

**Charter Bus Companies at DIA:**

Ace Express Coaches

(303) 421-2780

Arrow Stage Lines

(303) 373-9119

D & D Transportation Services LLC

(720) 252-3973

Dakota Bus Service, Inc.

303-287-7605

Gray Line of Denver

(303) 289-2841

Hermes Worldwide, Inc.

(303) 577-7600

Premier Charters, Inc.

(303) 289-2222

Ramblin' Express Inc

(719) 590-8687

**Lodging and Hotel Responsibilities**

* Schools will be required to stay at pre-selected hotels in the area.
* Lodging will be paid for upfront by each school
	+ At the completion of the event, each school can submit for reimbursement, up to $8,000 for team lodging.
* Hotels will be assigned on Selection Night and schools will be sent hotel name and addresses for planning purposes.
* Rooming Lists and Credit Card information must be submitted **prior** to Selection Day to prepare for a short turnaround time to Colorado.
	+ Submit rooming lists to Denise Ely, denise@sw-host.com
	+ Denise Ely- 503-746-4371

**Reimbursement for Lodging and Ground Transportation or other approved expenses**

1. The traveling school pays for any approved expenses upfront.
2. At the event's end, the school will submit reimbursement and include all necessary paperwork and receipts.

## Game Expenses

Game expenses are the responsibility of the NISC. Specifically, game expenses shall include the following:

1. Printing and selling of game tickets
2. Game officials' fees and travel expenses
3. Scorekeeper, statisticians, etc.
4. Security and ushers
5. Printing of tournament related materials
6. Promotional and marketing activities

**Playing Rules**

Playing rules for all games shall be the most current official NCAA regulations.

**Official Ball**

Rawlings, provided by the NISC

**Umpires and Officials**

Umpires will be assigned by Cody Little, Sally Walker and Steve McCown. Onsite UIC will be Jim Adrian.

## Determination Home/Away Teams

For all regional and championship rounds, the home team shall occupy the third base dugout, warm-up first and select the color of the uniform jersey. The visiting team must wear a contrasting uniform jersey. The committee or its designee will resolve any conflict in the selection of uniforms. As a reminder, when teams play back-to-back games, they must be prepared to change uniforms, if necessary. By mutual agreement of the participating teams, teams playing back-to-back games may agree to stay in the same uniform color.

**All Rounds**. The home team for the first round of regionals and championship round, will be the higher seeded (based on RPI) team. In subsequent games, the home team shall be determined according to the following formula:

1. The games committee shall designate as home team the institution that has been the home team the fewest times (regionals and finals are considered separately).
2. If two teams have been home team an equal number of times but visiting team an unequal number of times, the team that has been the visitor most often shall be designated as home team
3. If two teams have been both home team and visiting team an equal number of times, and if the two teams previously met, the visitor in the initial game shall be the home team in the second game.
4. If games between the same teams are back-to-back, the home teams shall be the visitors in the previous game regardless of the number of times either team has been home or visitors.
5. If two teams have been both home team and visiting team an equal number of times, the team that was the visitor in its preceding game shall be the home team, unless both teams were the visitor in their preceding games.
6. If the preceding formula does not prevail, the higher-seeded team shall be the home team or visitors.
7. When teams play back-to-back games, they must be prepared to change uniforms and dugouts, if necessary

**Concessions and Food Trucks**

Options will be available on site

**Programs and Tournament Merchandise**

Online programs will be available via QR code. Tournament merchandise will be sold on site.

**All-Tournament Awards**

The NISC All-Tournament Team and Tournament MVP is voted on by media and NISC personnel. A team trophy ceremony will be conducted immediately following the championship game. The champion and runner-up trophies will be presented, as will the All-Tournament player trophies.

**Bus Parking**

Spaces will be marked for team parking on the West side of Automation Way

**Spectator Parking**

Spectator and fan parking is open along the street. Please be advised that parking in marked spots or marked with No Parking are subject to ticketing and tow.

**Ticketing**

* There will be NO pass lists for this event.
	+ Your team rooming list/travel party will be used for entry into the facility.
		- The only additions to this list are for AD’s or Coach Spouses
	+ Parents, Fans, and Spectators will need to purchase tickets separately.
* All seating is GENERAL ADMISSION, OPEN SEATING
* Single Day Tickets and All Session Tickets will be available for purchase.

**Media Section**

**Live Stream**

All games will be streamed live. Production service is TBD.

**Game Stats**

The NISC will provide an official stat inputter. All games will be scored through StatCrew. Live stats will be available on SideArm and can be found on the NISC website.

**Media Accommodations**

* Seats at the press table shall be made available to the press working the game.
* Should seat availability be limited then priority should be given as indicated below:
	+ Media who have regularly covered the team throughout the season.
	+ Working press from the immediate vicinity of the participating institutions.
	+ Working press representing all other locations.

**Credentials**

 For credential requests please contact Craig Buchanan: Craig@triplecrownsports.com.

**NISC Rights**

Television and Radio Rights

• The NISC reserves all television and radio rights for televising and broadcasting all NISC games.

• This covers, but is not limited to, commercial and non-commercial broadcasts, all forms of cable or broadband broadcasts, either live or tape delayed, whole or in part.

• Information on purchasing television rights is provided upon request.

• Radio stations wishing to broadcast a NISC game must fill out the Radio and Internet Rights form and email it back to the NISC prior to airing a NISC game. Refer to the form for applicable rights fees. $150 fee per game.