



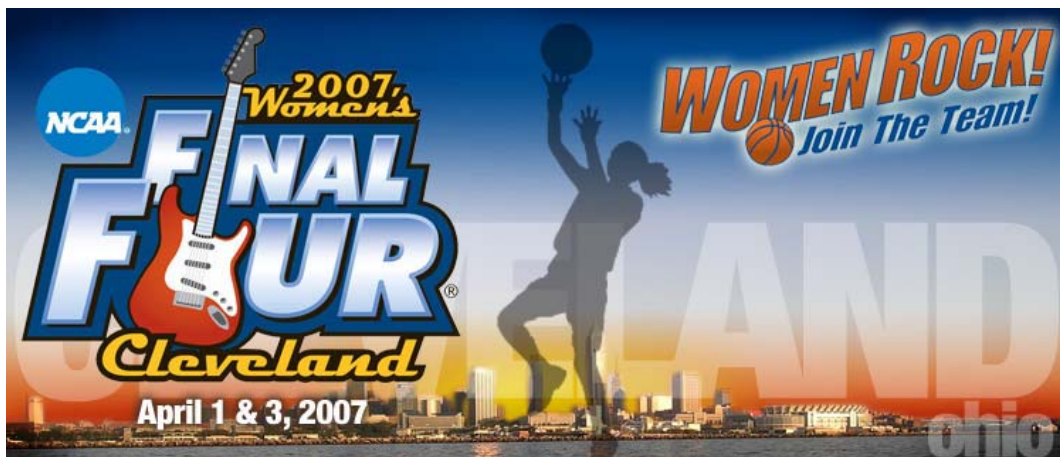
MARCH MADNESS 2007 RULES (AS OF 31 MARCH 2007)

THE EVENT

Oraclâ March Madness 2007 is a chance for Talossans and friends of Talossa to compete for bragging rights by way of making clairvoyant predictions on the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Men's and Women's Division I Basketball tournaments.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

This event is open to citizens, prospectives, and friends of both Kingdom and Republic. Are you a "friend" of Talossa? If you have a Wittenberg account with either the Kingdom or Republic (or both), you're a friend of Talossa and are eligible to compete.



THE COMPETITIONS

In Oraclá's March Madness scheme, you have not just one chance to win it all, but five:

- Oraclá March Madness 2007 Division I Women's Total Games**
- Oraclá March Madness 2007 Division I Women's Points**
- Oraclá March Madness 2007 Division I Men's Total Games**
- Oraclá March Madness 2007 Division I Men's Points**
- Oraclá March Madness 2007 Division I Combined Pick-a-Champion**

“TOTAL GAMES” COMPETITIONS

“Total Games” is nothing more than trying to correctly predict the outcome of all 63 games in one tournament or the other. In each tournament, there are 63 games in all, and one will do well, I expect, to guess at least 40 correctly.

“POINTS” COMPETITIONS

“Points” refers to the point system used by Yahoo (and independently thought of by me):

- correctly-guessed 1st round game = 1 point (32 games in all - 32 points total)
- correctly-guessed 2nd round game = 2 points (16 games in all - 32 points total)
- correctly-guessed Regional Semifinal game = 4 points (8 games in all - 32 points total)
- correctly-guessed Regional Final = 8 points (4 games in all - 32 points total)
- correctly-guessed National Semifinal = 16 points (2 games in all - 32 points total)
- correctly-guessed National Final = 32 points (1 game)

192 total points possible for either the Men's or the Women's tournament.

Whoever has the most points for one tournament or the other wins the respective Points competition.

COMBINED PICK-A-CHAMPION

Pick the winners of both the women's and men's tournaments. If you are the only person to correctly pick both champions, you are automatically the winner of the competition. If, as is very likely, there is a tie, the tie will be broken by way of the tiebreakers discussed elsewhere.

If no-one (as happened in 2006) correctly picks even one champion in either tournament, there will be no tiebreakers and no Combined Pick-a-Champion winner. 2006 saw us have no winner in this competition.

TIEBREAKERS FOR MEN'S/WOMEN'S POINTS AND TOTAL GAMES

Men's Points and Total Games:

1. Correctly guessing the champion
 2. Correctly guessing the loser in the National Final
 3. Most number of correctly-guessed Final Four teams
 4. Most number of correctly-guessed Elite Eight teams
 5. Most number of correctly-guessed Sweet Sixteen teams
 6. Most number of correctly-guessed Final 32 teams
 7. Highest seed in region to be correctly-guessed as being upset in the first and second rounds
- Example: If I pick a 1-seed to fall in the Second Round, but Joe Camel picks a 5th-seed to fall in the First Round, I win the tie-breaker. Results of the National Semifinals and the National Final will not count in any fashion toward this tiebreaker.

If these breakers do not resolve a tie, said tie shall remain a tie.

Women's Points and Total Games:

1. Correctly guessing the champion
 2. Correctly guessing the loser in the National Final
 3. Most number of correctly-guessed Final Four teams
 4. Most number of correctly-guessed Elite Eight teams
 5. Most number of correctly-guessed Sweet Sixteen teams
 6. Most number of correctly-guessed Final 32 teams
 7. Highest seed in region to be correctly-guessed as being upset in the first and second rounds
- Example: If I pick a 1-seed to fall in the Second Round, but Joe Camel picks a 5th-seed to fall in the First Round, I win the tie-breaker. Results of the National Semifinals and the National Final will not count in any fashion toward this tiebreaker.

If these breakers do not resolve a tie, said tie shall remain a tie.

Combined Pick-a-Champion

1. Most number of correctly-guessed National Final losers in both tournaments combined
2. Most number of correctly-guessed Final Four teams in both tournaments combined
3. Most number of correctly-guessed Elite Eight teams in both tournaments combined
4. Most number of correctly-guessed Sweet Sixteen teams in both tournaments combined
5. Most number of correctly-guessed Final 32 teams in both tournaments combined

If these breakers do not resolve a tie, said tie shall remain a tie.

ENTERING MEN'S POINTS & TOTAL GAMES
ENTERING WOMEN'S POINTS & TOTAL GAMES

To enter either tournament, you may submit a filled-out tournament bracket to Gödafiéu Válcadác'h via email (jeff@jeffrags.com) or by fax: 713-513-5445. Brackets may be had at the following pages.

The official NCAA website for Men's Championship information (including brackets) is at <http://www.ncaasports.com/basketball/mens/schedules>

The official NCAA website for Women's Championship information (including brackets) is at <http://www.ncaasports.com/basketball/womens/schedules>

Selection Sunday and Selection Monday

Men's selections for the tournament will be announced Sunday, March 11, 6 p.m. ET (CBS) with the First Round beginning on Thursday 15 March.

Women's selections for the tournament will be announced Monday, March 12, 8 p.m. ET (ESPNHD) with the tournament beginning on Saturday 17 March.

DEADLINES for entries

For Men's Points and Total Games, entries received later than **Wednesday 14 March at 23:59:59pm Central** will not be accepted. Guesses made on the Opening Round play-in game (to be played on Tuesday 13 March) will not be counted. You need only make a guess as to how the winner of this game (whoever it may be) will fare once the tournament starts in earnest with the First Round on Thursday 11 March.

For Women's Points and Total Games, entries received later than **Friday 16 March at 23:59:59pm Central** will not be accepted.

ADDITIONAL METHOD FOR SUBMITTING MEN'S BRACKETS

Many thanks to X. Pól Brigã, who has sent me his men's picks via **www.pickspal.com**: an easier (and online way) to enter your men's picks (sorry, Pickspal does not have anything for the women's tourney).

To enter a bracket via Pickspal:

- Go to www.pickspal.com and register (get a username and password), and submit picks.
- Email me a link to your picks (jeff@jeffrags.com).
- Be sure to get the link to your Pickspal entries to me by the deadline enumerated above!!
- You do not need to start or join a league to submit a bracket with Pickspal.
- Questions? Contact me at jeff@jeffrags.com

NOTE: I will not use Pickspal's points scoring system (I shall continue to use the one enumerated above). Pickspal will also not be an accurate assessment of how we are doing in comparison to one another in that at least one contestant (at this writing) has submitted his men's bracket by way of the old-fashioned method I described earlier and who will not be using Pickspal.

Only tournament summaries and results coming directly from me are accurate and can be trusted. Pickspal is merely a way in which contestants can more-easily submit their men's brackets. Next year, I will have a better way to do the women's tourney justice.

Pickspal allows for brackets to be made into .pdf files. In this way will all Pickspal brackets be posted to www.jeffrags.com – exact link to come.

ENTERING THE COMBINED PICK-A-CHAMPION

If you submit completed brackets for both the Men's and Women's tournaments, you are automatically entered. If no-one or just one person submits brackets for both Men's and Women's competitions, there will be no Pick-a-Champion winner for 2007.

AWARDS

I had hoped to have a plethora of baseball caps with special one-of-a-kind insignia for each competition winner, 2nd place, and 3rd place. But frugality must be adhered to, and for now, paper certificates signed by Yours Truly will have to suffice, though to each competition winner will go a special surprise gift.

Anyone who manages to win all five competitions in a single year shall have won the GRAND SWEEP. Such a thing is indeed possible: GV swept both the Men's and Women's Points championships last year.

Awards will be given to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers as well as for the following:

- Correctly guessing the National Champion of either or both tournaments (in addition to awards for Pick-A-Champion, if any)
- Correctly guessing every game in a Region up to the Regional Final
- Correctly guessing every game in a particular round overall in either or both tournaments

CONTESTANTS - Men's competitions

Greg Gollinger, Gödafrieu Válcadác'h, and X. Pôl Brigâ

CONTESTANTS - Women's competitions

Gödafrieu Válcadác'h, and X. Pôl Brigâ (Greg Gollinger did not submit a bracket for this competition.)

CONTESTANTS – Combined Pick-a-Champion

Greg Gollinger, Gödafrieu Válcadác'h, and X. Pôl Brigâ