

February 15th, 2022

Breaking: Erie, PA to host both Men's and Women's National Championships

Pittsburgh, PA -- CollClubSports is excited to announce that both the Men's and Women's National Championship will be held in beautiful Erie, Pennsylvania. The Men's Championship will be held at Gannon University, while the Women's first ever National Championship tournament will take place at Mercyhurst University.

For Women's, the winners of each of the seven regional playoff tournaments plus one at-large bid will earn the right to participate in a single elimination tournament, and will battle it out to be crowned the National Champion. While on the Men's side the winners of the five regional playoff tournaments along with three at large bids will compete, hoping to be crowned a National Champion. All games begin on Friday, April 22nd with the skills competition and All-Star Game taking place on Saturday, April 23rd. The tournaments will conclude with the National Championship Games on Sunday, April 24th



Mercyhurst's newly renovated gymnasium

"The NCBBA and Erie, PA developed a great relationship after Erie and Gannon University were awarded the 2020 NCBBA-Women's National Championship. Unfortunately, due to COVID that event didn't happen. Luckily the relationship that was developed between the NCBBA and Erie, PA didn't diminish and the Erie Sports Commission was eager to open talks about hosting our events in 2022. I personally had the pleasure of doing a site visit to Erie, PA and doing tours of both Mercyhurst University and Gannon University earlier this fall. Very soon after that visit, I knew Erie had to be the locations for both the men's and women's NCBBA National Championships. Both Gannon (Men's) and Mercyhurst (Women's) will be incredible venues to host these National Championships and I know the 8 qualifying teams will feel the same way. We couldn't be more excited about this announcement." - **Christian Smith, VP of Basketball Operations.**



Gannon University's 2,800 seat arena

The Highmark Events Center is located on the campus of Gannon University in downtown Erie. It has been host to Gannon Basketball since the programs began during the 1949-1950 season. The arena's capacity is 2,800 and has been voted as the toughest place to win in Division II numerous times by opposing coaches.

The Mercyhurst Athletic Center is located on the campus of Mercyhurst University and has undergone extensive renovations. The arena now includes a new playing surface, upgraded seating and new video scoreboard. Mercyhurst has established itself as one of the elite Division II basketball schools in the region, fueled by three-straight NCAA appearances for the men's program, including an Elite Eight appearance in 2019. The Mercyhurst Athletic Center can seat 1,500 fans.

"We are excited and honored to continue our relationship with CollClubSports and welcome the National Club Basketball Association Men's and Women's Championships to Erie in April," said Mark Jeanneret, executive director of the Erie Sports Commission. "These national championships will offer the opportunity to see the very best club basketball teams in the country in two of the very best basketball venues in Erie County."

Erie is a beautiful waterfront city with no shortage of things to do nearby. There is endless shopping, both local and retail chains, with no sales tax on clothes and shoes. You can explore beaches, shopping, food, and historical landmarks at beautiful Presque Isle State Park located right on Lake Erie. The city offers 3 semi-pro teams to cheer for along with Presque Isle Downs & Casino and Lake Erie Wine Country to offer more entertainment.



Erie, PA. Located on the shores of Lake Erie

Erie is easily accessible for all of our teams as it is the intersection of two major interstates: I-79 and I-90. Erie International Airport offers flights to and from Charlotte, Chicago, and Washington D.C. as well as being within two hours of Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Buffalo airports.

More information on this event will be released as it draws near on <https://ncbbabasketball.org/>. Questions regarding the 2022 NCBBA National Championships can be directed to NCBBA VP of Operations, Christian Smith at Christian.Smith@CollClubSports.com or 412-321-8440 x104.

