



HISTORY

The National Invitation Tournament (NIT) has a storied history dating back to its inaugural championship on Wednesday, March 16, 1938. On that day, the Temple Owls triumphed over the Colorado Buffaloes with a decisive 60-36 victory at Madison Square Garden. Fast forward 87 years, and the excitement continues as the next NIT champion will be crowned on Thursday, April 3, 2025, at historic Hinkle Fieldhouse on the campus of Butler University. Over the years, 54 different schools have won an NIT title, showcasing the tournament's rich tradition.

COMMITTEE

2024-25 COMMITTEE

Clifton Douglass | Conference USA
Tim Duncan, chair | University of Memphis
Dena Freeman-Patton | Morgan State University
*Jeff Jones – 560 Career Wins
*Phil Martelli – 449 Wins
*Tubby Smith – 642 Wins
*Gary Waters – 365 Wins
*Bob Williams, vice chair – 498 Wins

*Retired Coach

COMMITTEE ALUMNI

Rick Byrd – 805 Wins
Don DeVoe – 512 Wins
Gene Keady – 531 Wins
Bob McKillop – 634 Wins
Mike Montgomery – 677 Wins
C.M. Newton – 516 Wins
Dave Odom – 405 Wins
Dean Smith – 879 Wins
Carroll Williams – 341 Wins

2025

32 TEAM FIELD

16 Exempt Bids
(First Round hosts)

2 – ACC

2 – SEC

1 EACH from the top
12 conferences

Automatic Bids

At-Large Bids

BPI + KPI +
NET +
KENPOM +
SOR + TOR +
WAB

÷ 7

= "KNIT"
SCORE

QUALIFICATION INFORMATION

EXEMPT BIDS

Two eligible teams from each of the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) and the Southeastern Conference (SEC) with the best "KNIT" score per the data released the morning of Sunday, March 16, 2025, will receive an exempt bid to the NIT. These four teams will be provided the opportunity to host first-round competition.

Each of the top 12 conferences, as determined by the KenPom ratings per the data released the morning of Sunday, March 16, 2025, will receive one exempt bid. The bid will be granted to the team in each conference with the best "KNIT" score. These 12 teams will be provided the opportunity to host first-round competition.

AUTOMATIC BIDS

Automatic bids will be granted to conference regular-season champions that have a "KNIT" score of 125 or better per the data released the morning after the completion of the respective conference's regular-season competition.

AT-LARGE BIDS

The committee selects the best available teams to complete the 32-team field.



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SCHEDULE

FIRST ROUND | Tuesday & Wednesday | March 18-19 | Campus Sites

SECOND ROUND | Saturday & Sunday | March 22-23 | Campus Sites

TRANSFER WINDOW OPENS | Monday | March 24

QUARTERFINALS | Tuesday & Wednesday | March 25-26 | Campus Sites

SEMIFINALS | Tuesday | April 1 | Hinkle Fieldhouse, Indianapolis

CHAMPIONSHIP | Thursday | April 3 | Hinkle Fieldhouse, Indianapolis

TRANSFER WINDOW CLOSES | Tuesday | April 22

BROADCAST

ESPN is the exclusive broadcast partner of the NIT.

FIRST ROUND **SECOND ROUND** **QUARTERFINALS** **SEMIFINAL #1** **CHAMPIONSHIP**



*Once the field is set, the other games will be distributed across the ACC Network, SEC Network or ESPN+.
ALL games will be available to stream on ESPN+.



2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

14 conferences represented

Attendance up **19%** year over year | More than **140,000** fans attended an NIT game

1.4 MILLION people watched the championship game | Championship viewership up **280%** year over year

The championship game was the **MOST-WATCHED** NIT game since 2013

MOST-WATCHED NIT championship game since 2010

FUTURE OF THE NIT

2026 - THE NIT WILL TAKE PLACE IN INDIANAPOLIS DURING THE **NCAA® MEN'S FINAL FOUR®**. FOUR CHAMPIONS WILL BE CROWNED OVER FIVE DAYS IN AN UNFORGETTABLE CELEBRATION OF MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL.



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