NEW MEXICO ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

News Announcement For Immediate Release February 29, 2016

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U.S. BANK STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS TO TIP OFF FRIDAY

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – The New Mexico Activities Association would like to advise the public of important information pertaining to the 2016 U.S. Bank State Basketball Championships.

The first round of the tournament will be played on Friday, March 4 (Girls) and Saturday, March 5 (Boys) at the home sites of the higher seeded teams. Tickets for the first round games will be \$5.00.

The Class A-6A seeding meetings were held on Sunday, February 28; brackets are now posted on the NMAA website at www.nmact.org.

First Round winners will advance to the Quarterfinals, Semifinals and Finals, which will be payed March 8-12 in the Albuquerque metro area. WisePies Arena aka The Pit will play host to the majority of the tournament, with all state championship finals being played on Friday, March 11 and Saturday, March 12. Rio Rancho's Santa Ana Star Center and Bernalillo High School will host games Tuesday, March 8 – Thursday, March 10 (see NMAA website for specific bracket information). Rio Rancho High School and Cleveland High School will also be utilized on Wednesday, March 9 for the 3A Boys Quarterfinals.

The University of New Mexico will charge \$5.00 for parking for all vehicles. Parking is free at the Santa Ana Star Center, Bernalillo High School, Rio Rancho High School, and Cleveland High School.

Due to new security protocols at WisePies Arena aka The Pit, it is recommended that spectators arrive early as metal detectors and bag screenings are now required processes for entry to the facility.

TICKETS:

Ticket prices vary during the tournament depending on the facility.

Bernalillo HS, Rio Rancho HS, & Cleveland HS

\$5.00 Students/ Seniors/ Military \$8.00 Adults

Santa Ana Star Center

\$5.00 Students/ Seniors/ Military \$10.00 Adults

WisePies Arena aka The Pit

\$8.00 Students/ Seniors/ Military (General Admission)

\$10.00 Adults (General Admission)

\$15.00 Reserved Chair back

* Pre-sale tickets for games at The Pit can be purchased by calling 505.925.LOBO or by logging onto www.unmtickets.com.

* Tournament passes will be sold at the NMAA or by calling 505.923.3110 for \$135 until Monday, March 7 at 3:00 PM. Tournament passes provide re-entry privileges throughout the tournament, as well as a reserved seat at The Pit.

VIDEO STREAMING:

The NFHS Network will offer all quarterfinal, semifinal and championship games LIVE online for a subscription fee with prices starting at \$9.95. Fans should go to www.nfhsnetwork.com to sign up today; fans are also encouraged to sign up early to get their access code to avoid missing any of the games.

OFFICIAL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP MERCHANDISE:

Graphic Connection is the exclusive State Championship Merchandise provider of the NMAA. Souvenir items commemorating this exciting event can be purchased at any of the five tournament venues or by calling (505) 821-2777 or visiting www.gcsportswear.com.

INAUGURAL WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL GAME

Presented by the Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation

The NMAA, in conjunction with the Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation, will be holding a special wheelchair basketball exhibition during the 2016 U.S. Bank State Championships. This contest will take place on Thursday, March 10 during halftime of the 3pm and 445pm boys semifinals.

The mission of the Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation is to enhance the lives of Carrie Tingley Hospital patients and special needs children and their families throughout New Mexico.

In addition to this special event, the Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation would like to highlight their "Camp Adventure" which will be held June 13-17 and June 20-24 at La Cueva High School.

The camp is made possible by the Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation who helps children with special needs reach the stars. From building wheelchair ramps on homes in rural communities, to providing an adaptive sports camp for children with special needs, to helping with lodging when families travel for operation, funding research or purchasing cutting edge medical equipment – the work of the Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation is changing lives every day in New Mexico.

Contact Travis Davis at 505-249-0713 or tdavis@cthf.net for more information.

For additional information pertaining to this announcement, please contact Dusty Young, NMAA Associate Director, at 505.977.5385 or dusty@nmact.org.