

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: <u>Katherine Fox</u>

Kansas City has been Awarded 3 NCAA Championship Events - Media Event TODAY at 2:45pm -

KANSAS CITY, MO (October 14, 2020) – The Kansas City Sports Commission and Visit KC are pleased to announce that Kansas City has been selected to host **3 NCAA Championship Events** over four academic years spanning 2022/23 through 2025/26.

The Kansas City Sports Commission and Visit KC, in cooperation with multiple institutional and venue bid partners, submitted 28 bids across 5 sports. The following championships were awarded to Kansas City:

- **Division I Men's Basketball Regionals** will be hosted in partnership with the Big 12 Conference at T-Mobile Center March 23-26, 2023.
- **Division I Wrestling Championships** will be hosted in partnership with the University of Missouri at T-Mobile Center March 21-23, 2024.
- **Division I Women's Volleyball Championship** will be hosted in partnership with the University of Kansas and UMKC at T-Mobile Center December 18-20, 2025.

These 3 events will generate an estimated economic impact of \$35.6 million.

"This is certainly a bright spot in what has been a challenging year for everyone," says Kathy Nelson, President & CEO of the Kansas City Sports Commission & Foundation. "Kansas City offers unparalleled hospitality and we consistently deliver the highest quality experience for the student-athletes, coaches and fans that travel to our city to participate in these championships. They help solidify Kansas City's reputation as one of the best sports cities in the U.S., while generating significant economic impact and raising the visibility of our region."

"Sports and tourism are significant economic drivers for our community, to the tune of millions each year. And today's announcement is a culmination of the great work by the Sports Commission and our many destination partners to help build our region's reputation as a winning city for sports," said Visit KC Senior Vice President Nathan Hermiston. "On behalf of KC's hospitality community of more than 48,000 strong, we look forward to welcoming student athletes, coaches, fans and officials from around the country for these top-tier events that will help showcase our region to the sports world."

Kathy, Nathan and Mayor Quinton Lucas will be available to take questions from the media today (following opening remarks) in front of the <u>stage at KC Live!</u> in the Kansas City Power & Light District. TV crews may park on Walnut or Grand Blvd.

FROM THE NCAA:

For only the third time in its history, the NCAA undertook a site selection process where most of its championships were put out for bid at the same time.

The result: The Association made more than 450 selections of host sites for preliminary rounds and final sites of predetermined championships in Divisions I, II and III, with most to be held from 2022-23 through 2025-26.

The NCAA received more than 3,000 bid submissions from NCAA member schools, conferences, sports commissions and cities vying to host predetermined rounds for 86 of the NCAA's 90 championships. The sites were selected by the respective NCAA sports committees and approved by the divisional competition oversight and championships committees.

<u>Click here</u> to view the full release from the NCAA. For a complete list of championship events sites selected, <u>click here</u>.

About The Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation

The mission of the <u>Kansas City Sports Commission & Foundation</u> is to drive Kansas City's overall sports strategy, to enrich the quality of life, create economic impact and raise visibility for our region. As a privately-funded nonprofit, we are entirely dependent on your support. For the latest on Kansas City Sports Commission news, follow on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook Instagram</u> and <u>YouTube</u>. Also follow the Kansas City Marathon presented by Garmin on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

About Visit KC

Visit KC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to ignite global passion for Kansas City. Through marketing, sales and service of the convention and tourism industries, Visit KC supports a vital and growing component of the local economy—generating nearly 48,000 jobs and \$5.6 billion in economic impact annually. For more information about Kansas City, go to VisitKC.com.

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KANSAS CITY SPORTS COMMISSION & FOUNDATION

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