

Pitt Program Council March Madness Bracket – Official Rules

Submission:

1. Submit your ESPN username to our Qualtrics form found in our Instagram bio (@wedopittevents). If you do not have an ESPN username, or would like to make a new ESPN account, please visit <https://fantasy.espn.com/tournament-challenge-bracket/2021/en/>
2. Visit <https://fantasy.espn.com/tournament-challenge-bracket/2021/en/> to fill out a bracket.
3. Join our pool “Pitt Program Council” using the password &ppcmad

You must fill out both the ESPN bracket and our Qualtrics form to be eligible; failing to fill out the Qualtrics will result in your bracket being removed from our group. For more details on filling out the bracket and joining our group, please visit <https://fantasy.espn.com/tournament-challenge-bracket/2021/en/story?pageName=tcmehowtoplay>

You may sign up for this event through our Qualtrics form as soon as ESPN opens their bracket website. All brackets are due 1 hour before the first game of Round 1 (currently scheduled for 12 PM, Friday, March 19th. Brackets are due at 11 AM the same day.) The contest submission link will close after that time and no additional entries will be submitted.

Once you create a bracket and join our private group, you will be able to edit your bracket on the ESPN website until one hour before the start of the first game of the Round 1, after which all brackets will be locked.

Eligibility:

Any undergraduate student currently enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh Oakland campus is eligible to enter. One entry is allowed per student. Multiple entries will cause a student to be disqualified.

Prizes:

The following prizes will be determined after the championship game is completed and the bracket results have been confirmed by the NCAA:

- Championship 1st Place Prize – Choice of the following:
 - iPad Air (4th generation, 10.9 inch, 64GB)
 - Samsung 55” 4K Smart TV
 - Oculus Quest 2 VR Headset (with Oculus Link cable)
- Championship 2nd Place Prize – Choice of the following:
 - Powerbeats Pro Wireless Bluetooth Earphones (Black)
 - Beats Solo3 Wireless Bluetooth On-Ear Headphones (Black)
 - AirPods Pro
- Championship 3rd Place Prize – \$50 University Store gift card
- Championship Random Drawing – Ultimate Snacks 50 count Care Package
- Championship Last Place Prize – \$50 University Store gift card

The following prizes will be determined after the regional semifinals round (Round 3) is completed and the bracket results have been confirmed by the NCAA:

- Midway 1st Place Prize – Choice of the following:
 - Samsung Galaxy Watch Active2 (40mm, black)
 - Apple Watch SE (40mm, black)
 - Summer Bundle: Fjallraven Kanken Classic Backpack (charcoal), JBL Xtreme Portable Wireless Bluetooth Speaker, Nike Panther Head H86 Hat (black)
- Midway 2nd Place Prize – Spikeball Standard 3 Ball Kit

The following prizes will be determined after sign-ups for this event have closed:

- Best ESPN Bracket Name – Nike Grey/White Colorblock Full Zip w/ Panther Head logo

Winners will be announced the next day after the completion of the round. **All prizes will be shipped no sooner than the day after the championship game, with the exception of the Best Bracket Name Prize.** All winners will be notified by email. Prizes will be shipped directly to each winner.

Winnings may be subject to appropriate taxes. Winnings may also affect your financial aid. Please check with your financial aid counselor for details.

The winner of the Best ESPN Bracket Name will be eligible to win another prize. **All other students are only eligible to win a single prize.** Students whose brackets come in first place for multiple prizes will only be allowed to choose one of their prizes to keep. The forfeited prize will then be awarded to the student whose bracket entry was the next closest to the prize at the time of the prize's decision. For example, if a student wins the Championship 3rd Place prize and another prize, and forfeits the Championship 3rd Place prize, the prize would then be given to the student who had the next highest number of points below the Championship 3rd Place winner.

If any prizes unexpectedly go out of stock, the Pitt Program Council reserves the right to change the prize.

Points:

This event will use ESPN's official scoring system to track points. For each game within the tournament, you will earn a certain number of points for each team you correctly predict as the winner. The First Four play-in games (scheduled for Thursday, March 18) will not be counted and will not contribute points towards any of the prizes. The point value per correct pick, taken from the ESPN website, is as follows:

- Round 1 (Round of 64): 10 points per correct pick
- Round 2 (Round of 32): 20 points per correct pick
- Round 3 (Round of 16): 40 points per correct pick

- Round 4 (Round of 8): 80 points per correct pick
- Round 5 (Round of 4): 160 points per correct pick
- Round 6 (Championship game): 320 points per correct pick

See <https://fantasy.espn.com/tournament-challenge-bracket/2021/en/story?pageName=tcmen> rules for more information on ESPN's official scoring system.

Ties:

For the Midway 1st Place, Championship 1st Place, Championship 2nd Place prizes only, if there is a tie among multiple students, the next closest score to the winner of the tie will be awarded the next tiered prize.

- The student with the next highest score to the winner of the tiebreaker for the Midway 1st Place prize will win the Midway 2nd Place prize.
- The student with the next highest score to the winner of the tiebreaker for the Championship 1st Place prize will win the Championship 2nd Place prize.
- The student with the next highest score to the winner of the tiebreaker for the Championship 2nd Place prize will win the Championship 3rd Place prize.

Tie Breakers:

In the event of a tie for the for any of the Championship prizes, the winner will be decided by the final score of the championship game. The person whose predicted championship score sum (winning team score + losing team score) is closest to the sum of the actual final scores will become the winner.

In the event that this results in another tie, the winner will then be decided as whoever received the most points in the previous round. All further ties will be decided by points gained in prior rounds (i.e. a tie for points in the Round 4 will be decided who scored more points in the Round 3). This system will be used for deciding ties for all other prizes. If the tie is unable to be broken by points earned in Round 1, the winner will be decided randomly.

If no students' brackets make it into the championship round (that is, no one correctly predicted either of the two teams who are playing the championship game), the championship score will still be used as a first tiebreaker. If this results in another tiebreaker, the next round where the tied brackets simultaneously competed will be used to determine the winner (for example, if all brackets are eliminated in Round 4 and there is a tie for the Championship 1st Place prize, the championship score will be used as a first tiebreaker, and points earned in Round 4 will be used as the second tiebreaker).

Cancellations and Postponements:

If the March Madness tournament as a whole is canceled before the completion of Round 2, no prizes will be awarded except for the Best ESPN Bracket Name prize.

If the March Madness tournament as a whole is canceled or called early after Round 2, but before the completion of Round 4, the Midway Point 1st and 2nd Place prizes will not be awarded, and the Championship 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place prizes will be awarded in their place.

If the March Madness tournament as a whole is canceled or called early before the completion of the championship game, the winners of the tournament will be determined as the students with the most points among completed games. The final score predictions will not be used to break ties, and all ties will be immediately decided by previous round scores as described in the Tie Breaker section above.

In the event that any individual games within a round are canceled or postponed, points will be awarded in accordance with official ESPN guidelines.