Greetings Meadowlark NFB members and supporters,

Welcome to the Meadowlark NFB Chapter Bracketology fundraising Project, a screenreader accessible NCAA Division 1A men's basketball tournament pool conducted by and for the benefit of the Meadowlark Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind  of Kansas. The following paragraphs contain need-to-know information for how you can participate in this exciting event that will enable you to have a lot of fun picking winners and losers in this annual sporting event known as March Madness while helping us to raise much needed funds we need to press on with the ongoing work of the NFB. The Jayhawk NCAA Bracketology participant with the highest cumulative point total wins a fabulous $25.00 gift card from Amazon dot com. Target offers free shipping on items of $25 or more. A second $25 Amazon dot com gift card will be awarded to the pool participant who recruits new members into the pool.

About Your Donation. You may contribute to the Meadowlark NFB Bracketology Pool by any of the following:

1. Send your cash, check or money order to Bob Fuller, , 1812 Mississippi, Lawrence, KS 66044;
2. Present your contribution in the form of cash, check, or money order to any member of the Meadowlark chapter of the NFB of Kansas;
3. You may donate electronically via PayPal to treasurer@nfbks.org. Please remember to click on the link “Send to Friends and Family in the US” to protect your contribution from PayPal’s transaction fees. In the purpose field please specify your payment as a donation or contribution to the NFB Jayhawk Chapter. Any mention of tournament pools, betting pools, and the like, do not comply with PayPal’s anti-gambling policy.

Here are the steps you will need to get ready to participate in our accessible NCAA tournament pool. If you are a first time participant, do the following:

1. Launch your favorite web browser and log onto the web address below;

http://terrillthompson.com/ncaa/

2. Click or press Enter on the link for "pool";

3. Click "create an account Anyway” or click "Haven’t Signed up yet”;

4. Enter your information into all required fields in the standard web form which prompts you to enter your email address, a password, and a user name or "screen name" which from now on will be displayed on screen instead of your real name when pool standing reports are shown on the website and communicated via email. By leaving the default checkboxes checked will enable me to track your point totals and pool standings as the tournament progresses toward the national championship. Because your real name is not published in the system you will need to inform me of your screen name to enable me to find you in the pool tracking reports. It will also make it easier to find you if you join the Meadowlark NFB private pool when you create your account.

If you have previously participated in our NCAA accessible basketball tournament pool, simply activate the login link and enter your email address and password. If you do not remember your password, click the “forgot your password” link and you will be given the opportunity to reset your password.

Your game picks will be presented to you one round at a time from the opening subregional round of 64 to the title game in Glendale Arizona. Each of the four regions and the final four games can be found at heading level 2. The form control key (JAWS F) will take you to the radio buttons for each option for each game. Press the space bar to select your pick. To complete your bracket you will have submitted your picks six (6) times.

Once you have submitted your bracket picks you are given a list of options, each of which has a radio button above the option. To join the Meadowlark NFB private pool you will enter the pool name Meadowlark NFB and the password funraiser. Joining the Jayhawk NFB pool will enable me to track your cumulative points and standings more easily by obviating the need to find you in Mr. Thompson’s master pool.

The list of options described in the above paragraph enables you to view your own brackets and check your points and standings.

To help us determine bracket points and pool recruiting winners, please provide me with your screen name and your tiebreaker predictions including the margin of victory in the title game, the highest points scored by a member of the championship team, and the highest points scored by a member of the second place team. You may communicate this information by email to rob.tabor@sbcglobal.net or by telephone or text message to 785-865-9959. IF you want to check your own points and standings but have forgotten your screen name, feel free to contact me by phone or email as stated above as I retained record of all Jayhawk NFB pool members. However, I have no access to passwords except for my own but the online system provides for password recovery by following the steps as shown above.

As you will see on logon, this online bracket pool entry system was chosen for its specific design which makes it fully usable by persons who are blind or who have low vision and make use of screen readers and other assistive technologies such as refreshable braille display devices and screen image magnifying software.

This website, created by Terrill Thompson, a highly experienced assistive technology training manager and website developer, contains helpful information for navigating the website and other helpful information for customizing the user interface for your own comfort and preferences and other enhancements including links to live radio play by play radio broadcasts of all 63 games. This information is found in the help and features pages..

Last but not least, I will convene an informational teleconference call on Tuesday, March 14 at 8:00pm CDT Your game picks will be presented to you one round at a time from the opening subregional round of 64 to the title game in Glendale Arizona. Each of the four regions and the final four games can be found at heading level 2. The form control key (JAWS F) will take you to the radio buttons for each option for each game. Press the space bar to select your pick. To complete your bracket you will have submitted your picks six (6) times.

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The number to call to join the teleconference call is

916-235-1420. Toll free calling is available if your telephone service provider charges you extra for long distance calls. The teleconference participant code is 879925, followed by the hash (#) key.

• Very important. You must submit your online bracket picks before 11:00am local time on Thursday, March 16 or it will be too late for you to participate in this year’s tournament pool. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need guidance in navigating the bracket entry form.

On behalf of the officers and entire membership of the Meadowlark Chapter of the NFB of Kansas I would like to express my deepest thanks for your financial support and for doing your part in turning this fundraising endeavor into a fun-raising one. For more information about the mission and life-changing work of NFB, I cordially invite you to visit our national website at

https://nfb.org/

we also welcome you to log onto our state affiliate website at

http://nfbks.org/

I wish you the best of success in predicting tournament winners including the national NCAA men's D1A basketball champion, but most of all I hope you have a lot of fun participating in our fun-filled accessible tournament pool.

With warmest regards,

Rob Tabor | State Board Liaison, Meadowlark Chapter NFB of Kansas

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