

Western Collegiate Hockey Association

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Women's Member Teams

Bemidji State University
University of Minnesota
University of Minnesota Duluth
Minnesota State University
University of North Dakota
Ohio State University
St. Cloud State University
University of Wisconsin

Home of a Record 14 Consecutive National Championship Teams

2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

2014 WCHA FINAL FACE-OFF

March 7-8
Sanford Center • Bemidji, MN

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Minnesota, Wisconsin to Represent WCHA in NCAA Div. 1 Women's National Tournament Two-Time Defending Frozen Four Champion Minnesota Hosts Boston University and Wisconsin Entertains Harvard in NCAA Quarterfinals Saturday, March 15; WCHA Tries to Extend National Championship Streak to 15 Straight

MADISON, Wis. – Once again two teams from the Western Collegiate Hockey Association, winners of the last 14 consecutive national championships, have been selected to play in the quarterfinals of the 2014 NCAA Division 1 Women's Ice Hockey Championship.

Two-time defending national champion, two-time 2013-14 WCHA regular season champ and No. 1 seed Minnesota (36-1-1) will host Boston University (24-12-1) in a rematch of last season's NCAA title game in one quarterfinal game while No. 4 seed Wisconsin (27-7-2) will host Harvard (23-6-4) in the quarterfinal round, the NCAA revealed Sunday. Puck drop in Minneapolis is 4:00 pm CT next Saturday at Ridder Arena while the game at LaBahn Arena in Madison will start at 7:00 pm CT.

Minnesota gained the automatic berth into the NCAA tournament this past Saturday with a 3-1 victory over North Dakota in Bemidji, Minn., to claim the WCHA FINAL FACE-OFF title for the third straight year and sixth league playoff championship overall. Minnesota has now won an unprecedented seven consecutive championships with its consecutive league playoff titles, two regular season titles, plus two NCAA titles. BU qualified for the tournament Sunday by beating rival Boston College, 3-2, in the Hockey East title game and gaining an automatic berth to the eight-team field.

The Gophers are on a 24-game unbeaten streak (23-0-1) and are 85-1-1 dating back to the start of the NCAA-record 62-game winning streak, which went from Feb. 18, 2011 through Nov. 16, 2013. It included a 6-3 victory over Boston University in the national championship game at Ridder Arena in Minneapolis last March. This is the ninth NCAA regional appearances for Minnesota. Minnesota, which has won five national titles, also hosted the regional game in 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012 and 2013 when it beat North Dakota, 3-2, in three overtimes.

Minnesota learned its playoff fate Sunday while in Washington, DC., touring the nation's capital and having dinner with U.S. senator Amy Klobuchar prior to a visit to the White House today. The Gophers will join 17 other NCAA championship teams in meeting with President Barack Obama at 1 pm CT on Monday.

Wisconsin will be making its eighth NCAA appearance, the first since 2012. They are the only team in the eight-team field who did not qualify last season, but the Badgers have won four NCAA titles (2006, 2007, 2009 and 2011). UW is 16-3 (and .842 winning percentage) in NCAA post-season play and is 2-0 vs. Harvard. The Badgers beat Harvard 1-0 in four overtimes in Madison in a 2007 quarterfinal and 4-1 in Duluth, Minn., in a 2008 semifinal.

Eight teams are selected for the championship. Of the eight teams, the top-four teams are seeded. Three conferences were awarded automatic bids for the 2014 tournament. The remaining five teams were selected at-large. The automatic qualifying conferences and their representatives are the WCHA – Minnesota; ECAC Hockey – Cornell; and Hockey East Association – Boston University. Boston College, Clarkson, Harvard, Mercyhurst and Wisconsin were all selected as at-large teams. The quarterfinals will be played Saturday, March 15 and the other pairings have No. 2-seeded Cornell (24-5-4) hosting Mercyhurst (23-8-4) and Boston College (27-6-3) plays at No. 3 seed Clarkson (28-5-3), the No. 4 seed.

The quarterfinal winners will advance to the 2014 NCAA Women's Frozen Four, set for Friday, March 21 and Sunday, March 23 in Hamden, Conn. The semifinal games will be played March 21 at High Points Solutions Arena at the TD Bank Sports Center. The championship game will be played March 23.

Minnesota, Wisconsin and Minnesota Duluth from the WCHA are the only teams to ever win a national championship in women's hockey.