



**CONFERENCE USA**

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## **CONFERENCE USA INKS EXPANSIVE ESPN AGREEMENT**

*MORE THAN 175 EVENTS TO BE FEATURED ACROSS ESPN+ AND ESPN3*

IRVING, Texas – Conference USA Commissioner **Judy MacLeod** announced today a new multi-year contract with ESPN. The agreement triples ESPN's inventory of C-USA events from the previous deal to include more than 175 events on ESPN+ and ESPN3 for the upcoming 2018-19 season. More than 100 of those games will air on the newly launched ESPN+ -- the first multi-sport, direct-to-consumer subscription streaming service from The Walt Disney Company Direct-to-Consumer and International Segment in conjunction with ESPN.

"Building upon our previous multimedia partnership announcements with CBS, Stadium and Facebook, we were committed to extending our association with ESPN," MacLeod said. "ESPN has continually positioned itself on the forefront of digital distribution and emerging platforms, which makes them an ideal fit for us. We look forward to sharing the C-USA brand with their extensive audience for many more years."

"As we look forward to the 2018-19 season and beyond, ESPN+ will offer the most expansive college sports lineup in the industry, right alongside professional leagues such as MLB, NHL, MLS and premier events from Grand Slam tennis, Top Rank boxing, UFC, the PGA Tour and more," said ESPN Executive Vice President of Programming and Scheduling **Burke Magnus**. "We are thrilled to grow our relationship with Conference USA and have its 14 member institutions as part of the impressive digital lineup, which now features more games from the conference than any other network, including a significant number of postseason games."

As part of the new deal, ESPN will air all remaining football games (approximately 45 in 2018) along with 60 regular-season men's basketball games and 28 regular-season women's basketball games. ESPN also picks up first-round men's and women's basketball action at the upcoming 2018 C-USA Basketball Championships in Frisco, Texas.

Rounding out the contract, ESPN will become the primary home of multiple conference championships.

**Men's Soccer:** All six games including the championship finals

**Women's Soccer:** All seven games including the championship finals

**Volleyball:** All seven games including the championships finals

**Baseball:** All games leading up to the championship game, which will air on CBS Sports

**Softball:** All games leading up to the championship game, which will air on CBS Sports

ESPN's digital platforms will also spotlight additional C-USA championships throughout the year with special highlight shows. The sports expected to be featured include cross country, indoor and outdoor track & field, swimming & diving, golf and tennis.

*Continues to page 2*

### **About ESPN+**

ESPN+ is the first-ever [multi-sport, direct-to-consumer subscription streaming service from The Walt Disney Company's Direct-to-Consumer and International division in partnership with ESPN](#). It offers fans thousands of additional live events, on-demand content and original programming not available on ESPN's linear TV or digital networks. This includes hundreds of MLB, NHL and MLS games, Grand Slam tennis, Top Rank boxing, PGA Tour golf, college sports, international rugby, cricket, the full library of ESPN Films (including *30 for 30*) and more. Fans can subscribe to **ESPN+** for just \$4.99 a month (or \$49.99 per year).

ESPN+ is an integrated part of the completely redesigned ESPN App. Already the leading sports app, the new ESPN App is the premier all-in-one digital sports platform for fans and is a showcase of the company's culture of innovation. With a richer, increasingly more personalized experience, the new ESPN App curates all of ESPN's incredible content into an experience unique to each fan's individual tastes. ESPN+ is also available through ESPN.com.