

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Leslie Smithson, Charleston CVB, 304-546-0046, Leslie.Smithson@charlestonwv.com

The Basketball Tournament (TBT) Releases Field and Matchups for West Virginia Regional

Featured teams Best Virginia and Herd That Set for Potential Third Round Matchup

CHARLESTON, W.Va., June 21, 2021 – The Basketball Tournament (TBT) – the \$1 million, winner-take-all summer basketball event broadcast live on ESPN networks – today announced the bracket for this year's tournament.

Best Virginia (West Virginia alumni) and Herd That (Marshall alumni) will serve as the featured team for one of four regionals, and welcome 14 other teams that will compete for the chance to advance. The games, which will take place July 17-21, will be played at the Charleston Coliseum & Convention Center.

Eight quarterfinalists will advance to Championship Weekend at UD Arena in Dayton, Ohio, culminating with a million-dollar, winner-take-all championship game August 3.

Best Virginia, the second seed in the West Virginia Regional, is organized by former West Virginia star John Flowers. Flowers will also play for the team. Former Mountaineer and Charleston native James Long (2014-17) will serve as the team's head coach. Best Virginia's current roster includes:

- Alex Ruoff (2005-09)
- John Flowers (2007-11)
- Kevin Jones (2008-12)
- Juwan Staten (2012-15)
- Nathan Adrian (2013-17)

- Jaysean Paige (2014-16)
- Jonathan Holton (2014-16)
- Tarik Phillip (2014-17)
- Teyvon Myers (2015-17)
- Sagaba Konate (2016-19)
- Chase Harler (2016-20)
- Logan Routt (2015-20)

The third-seeded Herd That is organized by former Marshall players Ot & Jon Elmore. Their father and former VMI star, Gay Elmore, will once again serve as the team's head coach. Herd That's roster includes:

- Stevie Browning (2015-17)
- Ot Elmore (2016-19)
- Jon Elmore (2016-19)
- Rondale Watson (2017-19)
- James Kelly (2015-16)
- JaCorey Williams (Middle Tennessee State)
- Ronald Delph (Florida Atlantic)
- Derek Cooke (Wyoming)
- Darin Johnson (Washington/Cal State Northridge)

#2 Best Virginia will face #15 seed WoCo Showtime (Wofford alumni) at 2 pm ET on Saturday, July 17. If Best Virginia wins that game, they will play the winner of #7 seed D2 vs. #10 seed Bleed Virginia Monday, July 19 at 9 pm ET.

#3 Herd That will face #14 seed Team DRC Saturday, July 17 at 12 pm ET. If Herd That wins that game, they will play the winner of #6 seed Team 23 vs. #11 seed Fort Wayne Champs Monday, July 19 at 7 pm ET.

Provided Best Virginia and Herd That win their first two games, the two teams would face off Wednesday, July 21 at 9 pm ET, with the winner advancing to Dayton.

The top seed in the West Virginia Regional is held by Sideline Cancer, the runner-up in last year's TBT. Other alumni teams in the region include War Ready (Auburn alumni), Bucketneers (East Tennessee State alumni), both of whom play each other Sunday, July 18 at 12 pm ET, and the Founding Fathers (James Madison alumni).

The full TBT 2021 schedule is as follows:

Regional Host Cities

- Wichita, Kan. headlined by AfterShocks (Wichita State) July 16-20
- Charleston, W.Va. headlined by Best Virginia (West Virginia) and Herd That (Marshall)
 July 17-21

- Columbus, Ohio headlined by Carmen's Crew (Ohio State) and Red Scare (Dayton) July 23-27
- Peoria, III. headlined by House of 'Paign (Illinois) and Always a Brave (Bradley) July 24-28

Championship Weekend in Dayton

- Quarterfinals Saturday, July 31
- Semifinals Sunday, Aug. 1
- \$1 Million, Winner-Take-All Championship Tuesday, Aug. 3

Game information for the West Virginia Regional is as follows:

First Round

- G1 Saturday, July 17 12 pm Eastern (3) Herd That vs. (14) Team DRC
- G2 Saturday, July 17 2 pm Eastern (2) Best Virginia vs. (15) WoCo Showtime
- G3 Saturday, July 17 5 pm Eastern (6) Team 23 vs. (11) Georgia Kingz
- G4 Saturday, July 17 7 pm Eastern (7) D2 vs. (10) Bleed Virginia
- G5 Sunday, July 18 12 pm Eastern (5) War Ready vs. (12) Bucketneers
- G6 Sunday, July 18 2 pm Eastern (4) Armored Athlete vs. (13) HBCUnited
- G7 Sunday, July 18 5 pm Eastern (1) Sideline Cancer vs. (16) Founding Fathers
- G8 Sunday, July 18 7 pm Eastern (8) PrimeTime Players vs. 9 Fort Wayne Champs

Second Round

G9 - Monday, July 19 – 2 pm Eastern – War Ready/Bucketneers vs. Armored Athlete/HBCUnited

G10 - Monday, July 19 – 4 pm Eastern – Sideline Cancer/Founding Fathers vs. PrimeTime Players/Fort Wayne Champs

- G11 Monday, July 19 7 pm Eastern Herd That/Team DRC vs. Team 23/Georgia Kingz
- G12 Monday, July 19 9 pm Eastern Best Virginia/WoCo Showtime vs. D2/Bleed Virginia

Third Round

- G13 Wednesday, July 21 7 pm Eastern Game 9 Winner vs. Game 10 Winner
- G14 Wednesday, July 21 9 pm Eastern Game 11 Winner vs. Game 12 Winner

Tickets for all TBT game days and events are on sale now at <u>www.thetournament.com</u>. For more information, please contact <u>info@thetournament.com</u>.