

Independent Council on Women's Sports funds lawsuit against NCAA ... from sports page 1

TECT our future.”
 ICONS represents a powerful and expansive network of advocates, including current and former collegiate and professional female athletes, alongside their families and a vast circle of supporters. The nonpartisan organization stands firm in the belief that women should excel and prosper in the sporting world, free from any discrimination based on sex. ICONS asserts female athletes are entitled to the same respect and opportunities for fair competition as their male counterparts.
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ICONS further aims to uplift and strengthen female athletes in sports and beyond, while championing their rights and achievements across all arenas. ICONS



Via email
 National Collegiate Athletic Association
 NCAA Office of Legal Affairs
 ncaa.org

January 12, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

We write as attorneys on behalf of the Independent Council on Women's Sports (ICONS), a network of current and former collegiate and professional women athletes and their families, to put you on official notice that your practice of allowing male athletes on women's teams constitutes illegal discrimination against women on the basis of sex. We hereby demand that you take direct and immediate action to establish rules to keep women's collegiate sports female.

In the world of college sports, it is impossible to provide equal opportunities for both sexes (as required by Title IX) without female-only teams. Yet the NCAA implements and perpetuates a policy of allowing male athletes on women's teams, even as sports governing bodies and federal courts increasingly reject these unjust and inequitable policies that exclude young women from their own teams.

Female athletes do not accept this; and nor do groups representing their interests such as ICONS and women's rights groups across the political spectrum; nor do many parents, schools, states, governors, and lawmakers.

ICONS has worked with sports governing bodies and legislative authorities to help them protect female athletes from discrimination and exclusion on the basis of their sex. ICONS is willing and able to also share its expertise with the NCAA - if the NCAA wants to renew its commitment to providing equal opportunity for female athletes.

ICONS is calling on people from around the world who care about fair play and women's rights to join this effort to protect the women's sports category. As the funding organization, every donation to the ICONS athlete legal fund will go directly toward the NCAA lawsuit, and other legal expenses defending women's sports.

works directly with female athletes, lawmakers, and governing bodies to defend the respect and fair treatment of women in sports.

“The support from ICONS has been a beacon of hope,” said swimmer Susanna Price, as the litigating athletes expressed their gratitude.

“The NCAA needs to change their policies now. I would like to call upon people in positions of leadership to make sure no woman or young girl believes her chance to play doesn't matter. Her chance matters and I feel I must stand up for that. I'm grateful to all the women participating,” added swimmer Lily Mullens.

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You can learn more about ICONS at www.iconswomen.com, and support the NCAA lawsuit at www.TakeOnTheNCAA.com where you can read the full complaint

The NCAA's discriminatory policies and practices violate state and federal law, directly and proximately resulting in foreseeable and avoidable harms, damages, and losses to female athletes.

The NCAA is not above the law.

If you do not protect female athletes from discrimination on the basis of sex, we will embark on legal action to compel you to do so.

To avoid legal action, the NCAA must comply with civil rights law immediately by:

- Repealing all policies and rules that allow male athletes to take roster spots on women's teams and/or compete in women's events;
- Establishing and enforcing rules to keep women's sports female;
- Requiring colleges to provide single-sex locker rooms for female athletes.

We look forward to working with you to reach an acceptable resolution of these claims.

Sincerely,
 Lauren Adams Bone
 Candice Jackson
 Jackson Bone LLP
www.jacksonbonelaw.com

On behalf of the Independent Council on Women's Sports (ICONS)



www.iconswomen.com

St. Louis selected to host 2024 UFL Championship from sports page 1

bring to the building. It will be an experience like none other for the teams lucky enough to play in the UFL Championship game.”

“To have our fans see us in that game would be awesome. There's no doubt the Dome will be rocking. This also puts a little more added pressure on us to do what we need to do to be in that game, but everybody's end goal is to get into the Championship, so our focus remains the same,” added Anthony Becht, Head Coach of the Battlehawks

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The St. Louis Battlehawks led the XFL with an attendance of 175,121 for their five home

games in 2023, which included a record-setting 38,310 for their home opener. With a seating capacity of 67,000, The Dome at America's Center has hosted numerous conventions, trade shows, and major concert and sporting events such as the NCAA Men's Final Four, Beyonce's “Renaissance” Tour, and U2.

UFL team season ticket members will have the first opportunity ahead of the general public to purchase tickets for the UFL Championship. Additional details about the UFL Championship Game, including ticket information, will be announced at a later date.

About the United Football League

The United Football League (UFL) is set to launch as the premier spring football platform, formed by merging the XFL and USFL in 2024. The UFL has eight teams in Arlington (TX), Birmingham (AL), Detroit (MI), Houston (TX), San Antonio (TX), Memphis (TN), St. Louis (MO), and Washington D.C.

Email news and photos to MSTnews@prodigy.net and sports news and photos to MSTsports@prodigy.net.

The UofM Easter Egg Hunt is set for March 30 at the Billy J. Murphy Track & Soccer Complex on the University of Memphis Campus. Open to kids 12 and under. Check in is 11:30 a.m. For more information, visit www.gotigersgo.com
Happy Easter!