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Seattle to host two NCAA Division I National Championships

SEATTLE, WA – The Seattle Sports Commission (SSC) is excited to announce that both the 2012 NCAA Division I Men’s Swimming and Diving Championship and 2013 NCAA Division I Women’s Volleyball Championship will be hosted in western Washington.

Seattle University will serve as the host institution for the 2012 NCAA Division I Men’s Swimming and Diving Championship, which will take place in Federal Way, WA at the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center March 22-24, 2012. “We are thrilled that the NCAA has given us this opportunity to host one of its 88 annual championships,” said Bill Hogan, Seattle University Director of Athletics.

“We’re delighted with this opportunity to provide our world-class facility for the nation’s very best collegiate swimmers and divers in 2012,” said King County Executive Dow Constantine. “When the King County Aquatic Center hosted this same event in 2008, we had excellent attendance and eight national records were set.”

The University of Washington will serve as host institution for the 2013 NCAA Division I Women’s Volleyball Championship. Two semifinal matches and the national championship match will be held at KeyArena December 19 and 21, 2013. University of Washington Head Volleyball Coach Jim McLaughlin said “this is a tribute to the tremendous support the state of Washington and the Seattle area has shown to women’s collegiate volleyball. I am certain people in this area will come out in large numbers to see the tournament and justify the selection.”

“The City of Seattle is honored to host such a prestigious NCAA championship in our community,” said Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn. “It will certainly be an impactful event for KeyArena, the Seattle Center, the lower Queen Anne neighborhood and our entire hospitality industry in the downtown corridor.” A 2007 economic impact study for this Championship, held in Sacramento, resulted in nearly \$5 million in direct tourism spending.

Ralph Morton, Executive Director of the SSC, said “these two NCAA Championships are great opportunities for our region to host some the best student-athletes in the country, along with bringing in thousands of coaches, fans and media from out of town. Both events will generate significant economic impact for Seattle, Federal Way and King County.”

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Seattle Sports Commission

The Seattle Sports Commission (SSC) is a non-profit agency dedicated to: creating economic development through sports and recreation, supporting the local sports community, and promoting health and fitness in the Puget Sound region. www.seattlesports.org