



## How to Play

**Playing is simple. Follow this step-by-step guide and you'll be playing in no time.**

1. Mail in your donation of \$1000. We encourage you to play both the men's and women's brackets.
2. Cara Jones will email you from [cara@grsaf.org](mailto:cara@grsaf.org) with the Game Plan.
3. We will use [www.espn.com](http://www.espn.com) for the tournament. You will need a valid ESPN username and password. After you have logged in, click on the CREATE ENTRY button on the front page to create the entry for your team.
4. Follow ESPN's guide for creating a private group. The creator of a group (that's you) sets the group's name, motto and password. ESPN will walk you through the process, but specifically you want to create a private group. This will make your group only accessible to those whom you have given the group password.
5. Use the "Invite Friends" page to invite your team members to the Private Group. Inviting friends will send an email which will include the group password in the invitation. [IMPORTANT: In order for GR8 Sports, Great Kids to monitor your status in the Battle of the Brackets, you must add cara@grsaf.org to your team. This will give us visibility of your group's ranking. You may invite your friends to play all the way up until tip-off of the first game on Thursday, March 15, 2018.](#)
6. Have participants on your team make their selections (brackets will be available Sunday, March 11, 2018). Before the release of the official tournament bracket on Sunday, March 11, 2018, you will only be able to view your Entry page with the countdown clock counting down to the release of the bracket.

One hour following the announcement of the tournament match-ups you and the participants on your team will have the opportunity to select who you think will win each of the 63 tournament games. Entrants may change their selections as often as they like prior to the scheduled tip-off time of the first game, which is currently scheduled for Thursday, March 15, 2018. All selections must be finalized prior to that time.

7. Each participant on your team will be able fill out his or her bracket in its entirety from a single page. Each participant completes his or her bracket by clicking the name of the team he or she thinks will advance to the next round. The bracket will auto-populate future match-ups so participants can pick the projected winner of each game round-by-round. Once a participant's bracket is complete, and the participant has submitted his or her tiebreaker score for the Championship match, the Submit button will change color (RED button) and the participant may submit his or her picks.

8. Repeat steps 4-7 for the women's tournament. The women's bracket will be announced on Monday, March 12, 2018.
9. Now you are ready to play! The object of the game is simple: the team with the highest average score for each bracket (the women's bracket and the men's) is the winner. Updates will be published every Monday during the tournament on the [Battle of the Brackets Facebook](#) page. Friendly trash-talking is encouraged and expected. Good luck!