

EVENT PLAN



x



**2021 NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL
TOURNAMENT
AT HISTORIC HINKLE FIELDHOUSE**

OVERVIEW

From the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Butler University has been proactive in keeping its community healthy and safe. In March, this included a quick shift to virtual instruction, having a majority of employees work remotely, and the unfortunate cancellation of our remaining winter and spring athletics competitions.

In August, Butler's continued focus on health and safety included entry testing for all students prior to their ability to move back on campus and return to in-person instruction. When student COVID-19 positivity rates got above a very conservative percentage, the university made the decision to begin the semester online for two weeks. These decisions, along with consistent masking, a focus on physical distancing, strong communication, daily health self-screenings, and many other initiatives have kept the Butler community healthy and the number of positive COVID-19 cases on campus in the single digits currently.

For the spring semester, Butler again required entry testing for all students prior to their ability to return to in-person instruction. Additionally, all students participate in surveillance testing every three weeks, and tests are available for faculty and staff.

Hinkle Fieldhouse successfully hosted fans for men's and women's basketball games this season, using multiple mitigation strategies identical or very similar to those detailed in this plan. As reported in our post-game fan surveys, 93 percent of fans who have attended this season would attend another game and comfort level with our COVID-19 mitigation protocols rates a 9.2 on a 10 point scale.

We are confident in our ability to continue to safely host fans for future events and respectfully present the following plan in hopes that Butler can host fans for the 2021 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament. All information in this plan is subject to change as deemed necessary by University and NCAA leadership in accordance with guidances and recommendations issued by federal, state and local public health and government officials.

Event Schedule

Friday, March 19 - 3 Games
Saturday, March 20 - 3 Games
Sunday, March 21 - 3 Games
Monday, March 22 - 3 Games
Saturday, March 27 - 2 Games
Sunday, March 28 - 2 Games

BUTLER UNIVERSITY



PATRONS

Butler University strives to provide a safe and welcoming environment for all participants, staff and fans on gameday – and now more than ever, we are asking for your cooperation.

We strongly encourage all patrons to review the safety guidelines before visiting Hinkle Fieldhouse. Policies, guidelines, maps and frequently-asked-questions can be found all season long at ButlerSports.com and each ticketed fan should expect to receive a “Know Before You Go” emails detailing game specific information.

Patrons may also call or text the ticket office at 317-940-3647 before and during events.

Additional reminders will be shared on Hinkle Fieldhouse social media platforms on facebook and twitter.

Fan Health Screening

All ticketed fans will have their temperature taken before entering the building. Any individual with a temperature above 100.4°F can request a retest. Those tested above 100.4°F will not be admitted to the arena.

Directional Signage

Follow all posted signage to help maintain physical distancing. Be smart and continue to abide by physical distancing markers that appear in concourses, ramps, and elevators.

Enhanced Cleaning

We’re taking cleaning and disinfection to the next level. All “high touch” surfaces in common areas will be cleaned before, during and after each game. “High touch” surfaces include door handles, handrails, sink handles, toilets, and ATM.

Entering & Exiting

We are working to reduce congestion when entering and exiting Hinkle. This includes utilizing different entrances and exits for staff and fans. Please utilize suggested entrances, restrooms, and exits and follow suggested arrival times and departure instructions.

Elevator & Accessibility

All entrances are wheelchair accessible and an elevator is available in the northwest quadrant of Hinkle Fieldhouse. Riders on the elevator will be limited to members of the same ticketed pod.

Face Coverings

Face coverings will be mandatory for anyone in Hinkle (fans and staff) and must be worn at all times (other than while actively eating or drinking at your ticketed seat), including during security screening. Look at it as another way to rock your team’s colors and be a good teammate.

Guest Services

Guest services is located just inside Gate 4 for any patron needs and questions.

First Aid

If you’re in Hinkle and begin to feel ill, you should find help immediately. Dedicated isolation areas will be available for any fan who begins to feel ill after entering the building. The onsite medical team will be fully prepared to treat you on-site and provide you with personal protective equipment (PPE), if necessary. If you feel ill at any point before leaving or on your way to Hinkle, we ask that you please be a good teammate and stay home.

Hygiene

Hand sanitizer will be readily available for your use throughout Hinkle, and fans are encouraged to use it regularly.

BUTLER UNIVERSITY



PATRONS

Physical Distancing

You are required to follow all six-foot physical distancing markers on display throughout common areas inside and outside Hinkle Fieldhouse. These markers will help you line up for security screening, restrooms, shops and concessions. Remember, we're in this together so please be respectful of other fans and their space.

Pod Seating

Tickets will be distributed in "pods" to support physical distancing between each group of ticketholders attending together, with the expectation that fans will be attending games with family members they have been sheltering with and/or with trusted acquaintances. These ticketing pods will be arranged six feet apart from the next seating pod (both in the same row and in front/behind the pod). For this reason, please make sure to sit in your assigned seat as we will be blocking off unassigned seats as part of this effort.

Proximity to Players and Each Other

Fans will be seated at least 25 feet away from competitors. Selected seats will be blocked off to support physical distancing among fans. Please sit in your assigned seats. Furthermore, the court will not be available to fans after the game.

Fan Health Commitment

All ticketholders must agree that neither they, nor any of their guests, will attend a game if any one or more of the following is true on game day:

- Within the prior 14 days, they have tested positive for, or been exposed to someone who has tested positive for, COVID-19
- Within the prior 48 hours, they have experienced symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., a fever of 100.4°F or higher, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking, muscle pain or achiness, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, nasal congestion, runny nose, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue or any other symptoms associated with COVID-19 identified by the CDC)
- Within the prior 14 days, they have travelled to any state or international territory identified by federal or applicable local governments as being subject to travel or quarantine advisories due to COVID-19.
- Please note: According to the CDC, older adults and people of any age with serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk of death or severe illness from COVID-19. All guests should evaluate their risk in determining whether to attend a game.
- To help maintain physical distancing guidelines, ticketholders must also agree that they will not sell, transfer or otherwise provide any of their game tickets to anyone other than family with whom they have been sheltering (or other trusted acquaintances), unless selling, transferring or otherwise providing all such tickets (i.e., the full pod of tickets) to one party.

COVID-19 Warning

You must follow all building policies, including health and safety policies, and posted instructions while in Hinkle Fieldhouse and on Butler University grounds.

An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. Covid-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death. According to the centers for disease control and prevention, senior citizens and those with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable.

By entering Hinkle Fieldhouse and Butler University grounds, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19.

BUTLER UNIVERSITY



PATRONS

Parking

• Single game parking in the Hinkle main lot will be available for purchase via ButlerSports.com/BuyTickets. Passes will be delivered via mobile and entry to the lot will be touchless.

Entrance Security & Ticketing

• Fans must adhere to social distancing while in the security queue, utilizing the floor markings and stanchion pathways.

• Masks/Face Coverings are required at all times, including in the security queue.

• To reduce staff contact with guest belongings, a Clear Bag policy will be in effect.

- Patrons are permitted to bring a clear plastic, vinyl or PVC bag measuring no more than 12x6x12 inches.

- Small clutch bags approximately the size of a hand are also permitted, with a maximum size of 4.5x6.5 inches.

• All ticketed fans will have their temperature taken before entering the building. Upon result of a temperature above 100.4, security will issue a radio call to a compliance officer. The fan may request a retest from the compliance officer. Those tested above 100.4°F will not be admitted to the arena.

• All tickets will be mobile.

• In the event there are tickets available on gameday, the ticket window would be utilized. The ticket window includes a plexiglass divider and the ability for the patron to swipe their own credit card. We do not anticipate tickets to be available on gamedays.



PATRONS

Entrance Gates



- A Competitor Entrance**
This entrance will be used exclusively by the participating teams and their official Tier 1 travel party.
- 1 Ticketed Fans + Media**
This gate at the southwest corner of Hinkle Fieldhouse is available to ticketed fans as well as credentialed media.
- 2 Ticketed Fans**
This gate at the center of Hinkle Fieldhouse is available to ticketed fans.
- 3 Ticketed Fans**
This gate at the center of Hinkle Fieldhouse is available to ticketed fans.
- 4 Ticketed Fans**
This gate at the southeast corner of Hinkle Fieldhouse is available to ticketed fans.
- 5 Broadcast Entrance**
This gate will be used by members of the Turner/CBS broadcast team.
- B Additional Staff/Butler Personnel**
This gate will be utilized by Butler University staff and student-athletes.

BUTLER UNIVERSITY



PATRONS

Pod Seating

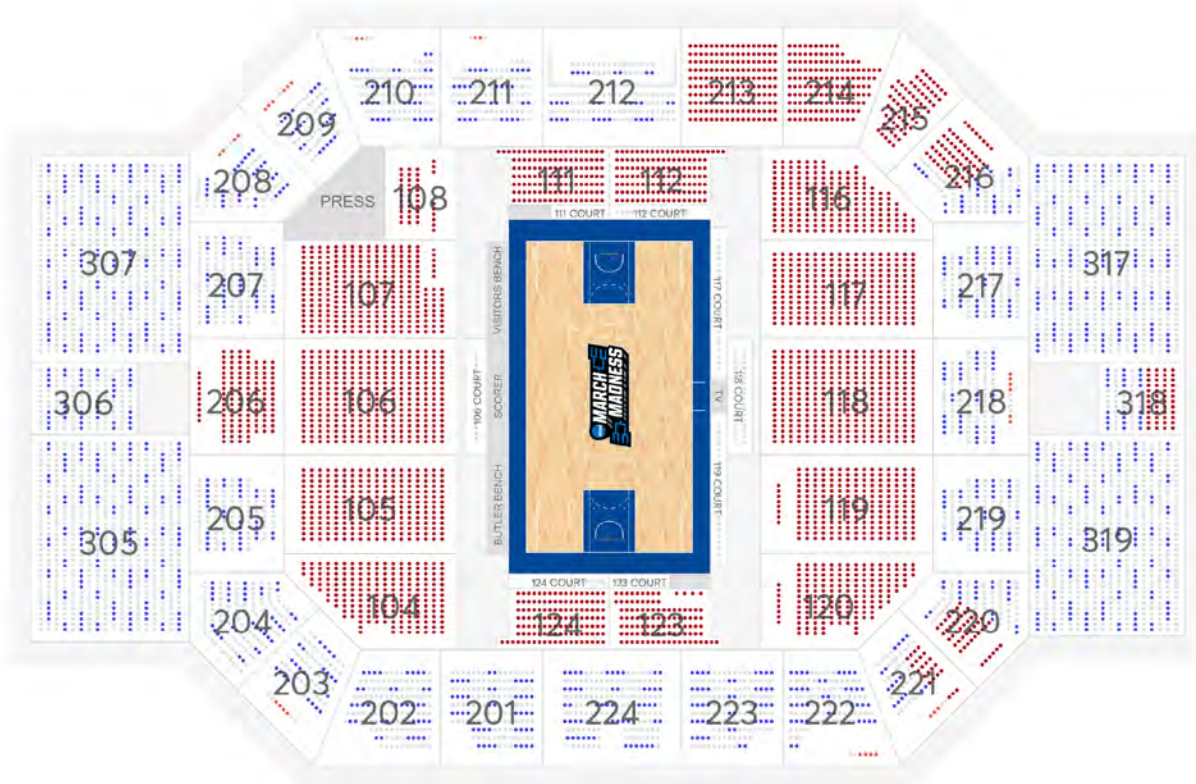
To provide physical distancing between each group of ticket holders, tickets will be distributed in “pods” with the expectation that fans will be attending games with family members they have been sheltering with and/or with trusted acquaintances. These ticketing pods will be arranged six feet apart from the next seating pod (both in the same row and in front/behind the pod).

Unavailable seats will be clearly marked, removed, or zipped, depending on type of seat.

The majority of available pods will be two or four seats. No pods larger than six seats will be available.

The official capacity of Hinkle Fieldhouse is 10,000. Under this plan, building capacity is reduced to 2,500. Seating capacity for fans is approximately 1,350.

A larger version of this map is available on the final page of this plan. Seats in **RED** are not in-use. **BLUE** seats represent ticketed fans,



BUTLER UNIVERSITY



PATRONS

Signage

Upon arrival to Hinkle, social distancing and safety protocols will be reiterated in-venue through a variety of means. University Marketing is utilizing signage templates in a variety of sizes.

- Sandwich board and staked signs outside all entrance gates.
- Revised directional signage in concourse and ramps, alerting patrons to the most direct path to their seats from point of entry.
- Floor markers will be used to help patrons queue for security, restrooms, shops and concessions.
- Handwashing, sanitizing and mask reminders will be featured on posters on restroom stalls and walls.
- Verbal reminders regarding safety and mask protocols will be made via the public address system throughout the game, including pre and postgame.
- LED signage during pre-game, timeouts, halftime and postgame.
- Video messaging on our center-hung scoreboard will play during pre-game, halftime and postgame.



BUTLER UNIVERSITY



COMPLIANCE

The Butler University mandatory mask requirement will continue to be enforced in a progressive and proactive approach by our game day staff at Hinkle Fieldhouse.

We will request that everyone in attendance at the venue to do their part by wearing face coverings, adhering to social distancing and staying home if experiencing symptoms. This expectation will be shared prior to each event in the “Know Before You Go” emails to all ticket holders and shared with any staff working in the facility during a pre-event training.

This messaging will also be on our Butler Athletics website and will be visible on signage in the parking lot, at all entrances, and in other high traffic areas of the fieldhouse. In addition, video board and public address announcements will be made during each event.

Enforcement of social distancing and mask protocol will occur in “stages” based on the number of compliance requests made to each individual. Egregious acts of non-compliance may warrant an expedited progression of warning stages.

Stage 1: Butler game day event services and/or ESG Security staff will provide a verbal warning to guests that may not be compliant.

Stage 2: Second verbal warnings will also be given by Butler game day event services and ESG staff.

Stage 3: Butler University and Indianapolis Metro Police will intervene on the third instance of non-compliance.

- If the individual still does not wish to comply, they will be asked to leave the facility by contracted security personnel and law enforcement as appropriate.
- Security logs will be documented for individuals that are non-compliant to address possible future attendance at events.

Texting Service

Any individual in attendance will be able to text the ticket office at 317-940-3647 [DOGS] to report an issue of non-compliance.

A multi-person team from the Butler ticket office will monitor texts routing to assigned staff members responsible for compliance. This team will also log the phone numbers of those filing false reports to address possible future attendance at events.

Post-Event Review

All appropriate personnel- including Athletics Staff, ESG and BUPD - will debrief following each event to make any necessary adjustments.



SPIRIT SHOP/MERCHANDISE

The Hinkle Spirit Shop at Gate 4 will be closed during this event.

NCAA Tournament merchandise will be available in the front concourse of Hinkle Fieldhouse. This merchandise will be sold utilizing a display board/concert model. Customers will not handle the merchandise before purchasing and there is no opportunity to “try on” clothing.

Checkout

The store will utilize multiple registers separated by six feet.

- Distance responsibly floor decals and/or stanchions are in place leading to registers.
- Hand sanitizer will be available to customers at checkout.
- Team members will frequently sanitize the counters and pinpads.



FOOD SERVICE

Bon Appetit Management will operate concessions inside Hinkle Fieldhouse.

Handwashing, Hygiene, and Safety

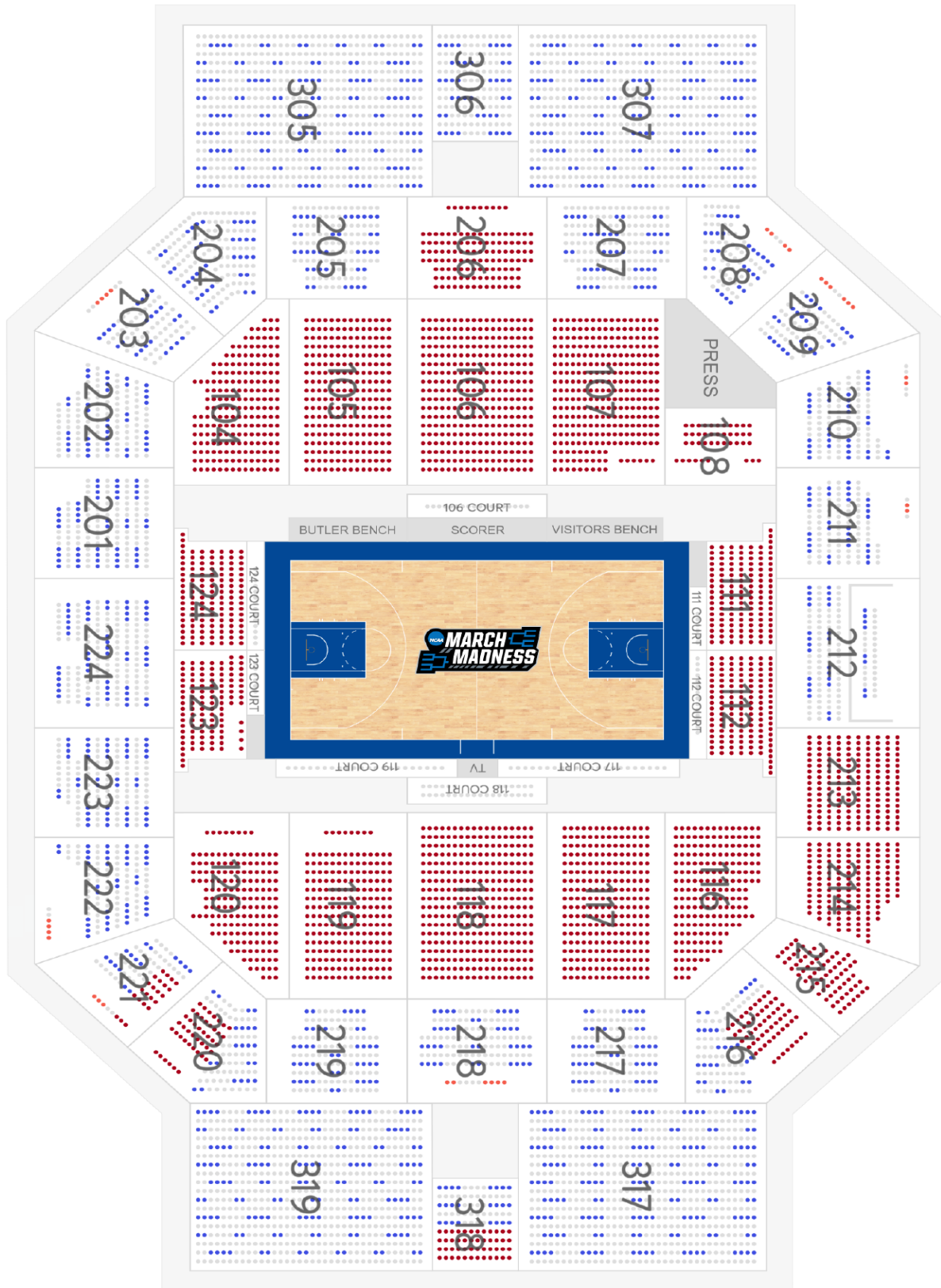
- Bon Appetit staff members will be required to wear gloves in addition to masks/facial coverings.
- Staff is responsible for maintaining handwashing logs and are required to wash hands at least every 15 minutes or when changing tasks.
- Each stand will be cleaned, sanitized, and disinfected before, during and after each event. During the event, highly touched surfaces will be cleaned regularly. This will be the responsibility of Bon Appetit staff.
- Safety barriers will be added for each cashier. Social distancing floor decals will be highly visible at each concession location. The number of team members per stand will be reduced in order to maintain social distancing.

Transactions & Food

- We will encourage cashless transactions by limiting cash options to one point of sale location per concession stand.
- Condiment dispensers will change to personal container packets, plastic forks and utensils will move to pre-wrapped items or automated dispensers to eliminate guests having to touch a handle.
- Through a partnership with Boost, patrons will have the ability to pre-order concessions from a limited menu and pick up from a designated location, most likely the north concession stand. Items will be pre-paid so guests would be able grab and go, reducing time in line.
- Consumption of food will only be permitted from a patron's ticketed seat. Masks may not be removed to eat or drink while moving.



SEATING CHART



BUTLER UNIVERSITY

