MARCH

MATH

MADN ESS

**Welcome to March Math Madness**

**Get ready to cheer on your team!**

Step 1 – Record Keeping

* Find this year’s win-loss record
* Determine % wins
* Determine wins probability
* Research if that team has won past NCAA championships

Step 2 – Predicting from Record Keeping

Based on the information in your tables from Step 1, with no prior knowledge or bias, determine and support mathematically which NCAA team you would expect to win each region and the entire tournament.

* East
* West
* South
* Midwest
* Tournament

Step 3 –Eliminations

* Complete the chart
* Describe the patterns
* Adding rounds to the tournament

Step 4 –Probability of Winning the Tournament

* Complete the chart
* Describe the patterns

Step 5 –Probability Palooza

* Answer all probability questions

Step 6–Take your chances

* Complete your bracket
* Explain your choice of tournament winner

**Step 1 – Record Keeping**

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| --- |
| EAST REGION |
| TEAM | RECORDWIN-LOSS | WINS% | WINSPROBABILITY | PAST NCAACHAMPIONSHIPS |
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| SOUTH REGION |
| TEAM | RECORDWIN-LOSS | WINS% | WINSPROBABILITY | PAST NCAACHAMPIONSHIPS |
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| WEST REGION |
| TEAM | RECORDWIN-LOSS | WINS% | WINSPROBABILITY | PAST NCAACHAMPIONSHIPS |
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| MIDWEST REGION |
| TEAM | RECORDWIN-LOSS | WINS% | WINSPROBABILITY | PAST NCAACHAMPIONSHIPS |
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**Step 2 – Predicting from Record Keeping**

Based on the information in your tables and each team’s record, explain which NCAA team you would expect to win each region. Justify your thoughts.

East: Team

Justification

West: Team

Justification

South: Team

Justification

Midwest: Team

Justification

Based on the information in your tables and each team’s record, explain which NCAA team you would expect to win the tournament. Justify your thoughts.

Team

Justification

**Step 3 – The Elimination**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Round | #Teams at Beginning | #Teams Eliminated | Fraction Of Total Teams Eliminated | Percent Of Total Teams Eliminated | Probability of a Team Going to the Next Round |
| First |  |  |  |  |  |
| Second |  |  |  |  |  |
| Third |  |  |  |  |  |
| Regional Finals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Semi-Finals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Finals |  |  |  |  |  |

a) What pattern do you see in the way teams are eliminated? Describe what you see.

b) How many teams would be necessary if one more round were added to the tournament? Explain.

c) How many teams would be necessary if three more rounds were added to the tournament? Explain.

**Step 4 – Probability of Winning the Tournament**

Disregarding statistics, what is the probability of each team winning each of the following rounds? Show your math reasoning.

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| First Round |
| Second Round |
| Third Round |
| Regionals |
| Semi-Finals |
| Finals |

What patterns do you notice?

**Step 5 – Probability Palooza** Show how you arrived at all answers.

a) If the names of each team in one of the regions were put into a bag, what would be the probability of drawing the winning team for the region out of the bag?

b) If the names of each team in each region were put into a bag, what would be the probability of pulling each name out in the order that they are eliminated?

c) If the names of each team in each the tournament were put into a bag, what would be the probability of drawing the winning team out of the bag? Show how you arrived at your answer.

d) Compare your answer for Step 5 Part b with your calculation for winning the finals in Step 4. Both questions ask to find the probability for the winning team. Why are the answers different?

e) What is the probability of picking a perfect bracket? Explain your method.

**Step 6 – Take your Chances** Show how you arrived at all answers.

1. Complete your bracket.
2. Explain why you have chosen your winner for the tournament.