

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## WeCOACH Announces New Conference-Wide Membership with the MAAC

September 8, 2023 – WeCOACH and the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) are pleased to announce a new conference-wide membership for the 2023-24 academic year. The membership is active immediately, allowing each of the league's 11 institutions to enroll an unlimited number of women coaches to benefit from the year-round programs and resources offered by WeCOACH, including several new programs and initiatives that will be unveiled this fall.

"The MAAC is excited to partner with WeCOACH to unlock new opportunities for our female coaches," said MAAC Commissioner Travis Tellitocci. "This strategic alliance centers on enhancing professional development, delivering coaching education, and fostering networking avenues. Our goal is to empower our female coaches with the additional resources to cultivate their advancement within the profession."

A one-of-a-kind nonprofit organization with the mission to recruit, advance and retain women coaches in all sports and levels, WeCOACH offers year-round professional growth and leadership programs to help navigate the challenges and obstacles women coaches face to stay in, feel supported, and advance in the coaching profession. MAAC women coaches will have access to premier programs such as the WeCOACH-NCAA Women Coaches Academy & Academy 2.0, Regional Workshops, Mentor Program, monthly Video Chats, WeAMPLIFY (women of color initiative), new About Time video podcast, and more.

"We applaud Commissioner Tellitocci and the MAAC's leadership for their commitment to invest in professional growth opportunities to elevate their member coaches. As our tenth Division I

conference this year, WeCOACH commits to continually grow and expand our program offerings to best impact and meet the needs of our vast membership. Together, we will MOVE the NUMBERS to support and increase women in coaching," said Vanessa Fuchs, CEO of WeCOACH.

To learn more about WeCOACH membership options, including group memberships, visit wecoachsports.org/membership/membership-options, or email memberships@wecoachsports.org.

## **ABOUT THE MAAC**

With 11 institutions strongly bound by the sound principles of quality and integrity in academics and excellence in athletics, the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) is in its 43rd year of competition during the 2023-24 academic year. Current conference members include: Canisius University, Fairfield University, Iona University, Manhattan College, Marist College, Mount St. Mary's University, Niagara University, Quinnipiac University, Rider University, Saint Peter's University, and Siena College.

## **ABOUT WeCOACH**

Founded in 2011, WeCOACH is a one-of-a-kind 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to recruiting, advancing, and retaining women coaches in all sports and levels through year-round professional growth & leadership development programs. Prior to Title IX, over 90% of women's collegiate sports teams were coached by women. Today, over 50 years later, the data indicates that number has decreased to 46% in Division I, 41% across all three NCAA Divisions, with only 6.2% women head coaches of color (Division I). Only 5% women coach men's teams. At the youth level, the data is hard to estimate, approximately less than 20% of teams are coached by women. WeCOACH launched MOVE the NUMBERS in 2022 to help change the landscape for women coaches and the student-athletes they lead. If she can see her, she can be her. For more information visit MOVE the NUMBERS.