

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## WeCOACH Announces Upgraded League-Wide Membership with the Ivy League

November 6, 2023 – WeCOACH, along with the Ivy League, are pleased to announce an upgraded conference-wide membership for the 2023-24 academic year. The membership is active immediately, offering each of the league's eight institutions to enroll an unlimited number of women coaches to benefit from the year-round programs and resources offered by WeCOACH, including the new WeCONNECT Women Coaches program that was unveiled in October.

"The continued collaboration between the Ivy League and WeCOACH is a testament to our shared commitment to elevating professional opportunities for female coaches," Ivy League Executive Director Robin Harris said. "This partnership reaffirms our dedication and support to providing mentorship and resources that empower female coaches to thrive and reach their fullest potential."

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. Ivy League women coaches will have access to premier programs such as the WeCOACH-NCAA Women Coaches Academy & Academy 2.0, Regional Workshops, Mentor Program, Video Chats, WeAMPLIFY (women of color initiative), new About Time video podcast, and more.

"The Ivy League has earned recognition in the Tucker Center's annual Women in College Coaching Report Card as a national leader amongst Division I conferences for its commitment to hiring women coaches, so we are thrilled for the opportunity to continue offering their coaches

year-round support. We applaud Executive Director, Robin Harris, and the Ivy League's leadership for their investment in professional growth opportunities to elevate their member coaches," 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 IVY LEAGUE**

The Ivy League stands at the pinnacle of higher education and Division I athletics, rooted in the longstanding, defining principle that intercollegiate athletics competition should be "kept in harmony with the essential educational purposes of the institution." Unrivaled in its legacy, The Ivy League provides the true test of academic and co-curricular rigor – fostering an enduring culture that celebrates a storied-tradition, thrives on shared values and holds paramount the academic and personal growth of students. Consistently ranked as the top academic conference and with more national championships than any other collegiate athletic conference, The Ivy League showcased over 240 nationally-ranked programs over the past three years and prides itself on sponsoring 34 sports, the highest number of any NCAA conference, with more than 8,000 student-athletes competing annually. The League's world-renowned schools – Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton and Yale – serve as the standard bearers for inspiring and transforming student- athletes to boldly take on the world's challenges and lead lives of great impact.

## **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.