

Western Mass

MIAA TOURNAMENT

It's almost mid-March, and as usual, a certain sense of "madness" fills the air. No, it's not St. Patrick's Day, but basketball, of course.

And here in Springfield, the very birthplace of the game, we have a little extra March fun happening this year because once again, the city is hosting the [Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association basketball tournament](#). Outstanding boys and girls high school basketball teams from across Massachusetts will convene on The City of Homes (and hoop!) for a celebratory banquet on March 17, with a fast-paced playoff bracket to follow on March 18.

The actual games will be played at two venues: the MassMutual Center in downtown Springfield, and at Springfield College, where Dr. James Naismith invented the sport. Friends and families of the players flock to the games as would be expected. And you're welcome too! For tickets, visit the [MIAA website](#). From the one and only [Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame](#) to the [Dr. Seuss Memorial Sculpture Garden and the Springfield Museums](#). Shop 'til you drop at [Yankee Candle Village](#) and [Holyoke Mall](#), the region's largest shopping mall. Stop by the [Springfield Armory National Historic Site](#), the country's first armory (commissioned by George Washington himself!). Or just sit back, and enjoy one of the many restaurants located just steps from your hotel. It's March in Springfield, and the livin' is easy!

For more great suggestions on things to see and do while following the action, click here to visit the website of the [Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)!