

March Madness and Gambling

FCCG Resources

- www.gamblinghelp.org
- Text to 321-978-0555
- Chat Live at gamblinghelp.org
- 888-ADMIT-IT (236-4848)
- Recovery Path Counseling Program
- Peer Connect Program

FCCG Resources

Professional Counseling	✓
12 Step Meeting Referral	✓
Peer Connect Program	✓
Chance For Change Books	✓
Legal Assistance	✓
Social Services	✓
Special Programs	✓

Brackets, Betting and Addiction

The NCAA's March Madness Tournament which starts on March 15th and ends with the Championship game on April 4th is an annual event that millions of people watch to root on their favorite College teams. The upsets, the action and the amazing passes and dunks are on full display on several networks throughout this tournament.

There is also something else on display throughout these weeks; the March Madness brackets, which millions of people will use to wager on the outcomes of the games all the way through the Final.

Between office pools, gambling on online sports books, betting with a bookie or wagering legally in Las Vegas, it is estimated that 40-50 million people will place bets on games. Legal Las Vegas sportsbooks are expected to see about 150 million dollars in action which is small potatoes compared to the 9 billion dollar estimate of total gambling on the



FLORIDA COUNCIL ON
COMPULSIVE
GAMBLING

tournament using offshore sites and bookmakers.

Even Warren Buffet is offering any of his employees 1 million dollars a year for the rest of their lives if they can pick a perfect bracket for the first 2 rounds of the tournament.

All of these numbers are mind boggling to most which can make it tempting for anyone to try to get in on the action in order to win some extra cash.

That being said, it is important to know that there are a lot of people who struggle with gambling this time of year. Much like the Super Bowl, many people wager beyond their means on this sporting event thinking they can make up for all the wagers they lose throughout the regular season.

The FCCG is committed to helping those negatively affected by gambling on this event or any other event by offering a variety of free resources to help get back on the right track. Enjoy the games safely!

Call 1-888-ADMIT-IT for help!

March Madness and Gambling:

- Employers will lose 1.9 billion dollars in productivity during March Madness
- Having office pools can trigger relapses for someone in recovery
- The vast majority of wagers are placed illegally both online and with bookies
- You don't have to place a bet to enjoy the NCAA Tournament