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**Contact:**

Jack Watford, WBCA Director of Communications, 770-279-8027 ext. 112

Ann Walker, Alliance Director of Events & Communications

## **WBCA partners with Alliance of Women Coaches to benefit 'So You Want To Be A Coach' program**

ATLANTA (August 29, 2017) — The Women's Basketball Coaches Association announced today a new partnership with the Alliance of Women Coaches that will benefit the WBCA's long-running and highly successful "So You Want To Be A Coach" education program.



The WBCA "So You Want to Be A Coach" program assists female collegiate basketball players who are interested in pursuing a career in coaching by providing them with professional development and career networking

opportunities. WBCA member coaches, athletic administrators and other experts in the sports industry provide participants with a two-and-a-half-day crash course in the challenges of being a modern-day coach.

The Alliance will provide speakers for the two-day in-person "So" program held each year during the WBCA Convention as well as the "So" webinar series, which continues their education. The Alliance also will encourage the advancement of "So" alumni into the coaching profession and help track them through their coaching journey, and will assist with recruiting sponsors to help fund the program.

"The WBCA recognizes the importance of growing women coaches to serve as leaders, teachers, mentors and role models for the student-athletes who play our sport," said WBCA Executive Director Danielle M. Donehew. "The 'So You Want To Be A Coach' program is the crown jewel in the WBCA's efforts to provide an effective entry point into the profession for former student-athletes who want to coach. More than 400 former college women's basketball players are currently working as coaches or in some role in our sport as a direct result of their participation in 'So.'

"We are excited that the Alliance of Women Coaches has chosen to partner with us as we take this already highly successful program to the next level," said Donehew.

"Taking into account the long-standing success and prestige of the 'So' program, we couldn't be more excited in partnering with the WBCA," said Megan Kahn, executive director of the Alliance of Women Coaches. "We believe that our organizations are a perfect match to develop and advance former players as they pursue their dreams of coaching the game they love. The Alliance looks forward to serving the women's basketball community."

The WBCA "So" program has graduated 814 participants in its 14-year history. Of these, 54 percent (not counting the 2017 class) are currently working in women's or girls' basketball at various levels of the profession. A total of 53 "So" alumni are head women's or girls' basketball coaches (five in NCAA Division I, three in NCAA Division II, 11 in NCAA Division III, one in the NAIA, four on the two-year college level, and 29 on the high school level).

### **About the Women's Basketball Coaches Association**

Founded in 1981, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association is the professional association for coaches of women's and girls' basketball at all levels of competition. The WBCA offers educational resources that coaches need to help make themselves better leaders, teachers and mentors to their players; provides opportunities for coaches to connect with peers in the profession; serves as the unifying voice of a diverse community of coaches to those organizations that control the game; and celebrates those coaches, players and other individuals who excel each year and contribute to the advancement of the sport. Visit [www.WBCA.org](http://www.WBCA.org) for more details about the Association.

### **About the Alliance of Women Coaches**

The Alliance of Women Coaches was founded in 2011 and has become the premier organization that empowers the community of women coaches, across all sports and levels, with the education and resources they need to stay and advance in the profession. By providing a supportive network, inspiration and knowledge, and access to in-person and digital platforms, the Alliance is changing the landscape for women in coaching. For more information on the Alliance of Women Coaches, visit [www.gocoaches.org](http://www.gocoaches.org).

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