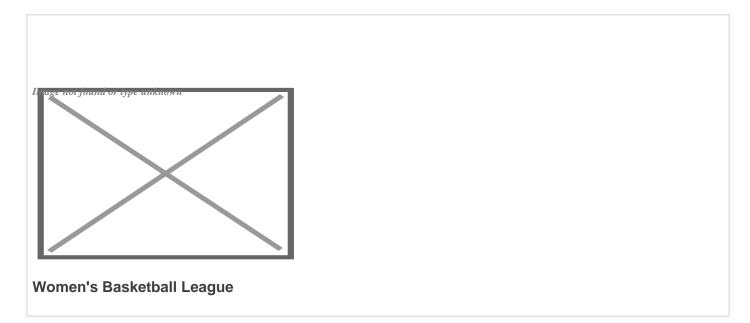
Women's Superior Basketball League will begin



Havana, Apr 3 (JIT) - The National Basketball Commission informed about the start of the highest domestic competition of that sport among women this April 9.

The Superior Women's Basketball League will be developed according to the format announced in February, which includes the participation of a quartet of teams, made up of players from several provinces and called to cover four phases before disputing the final from which the champion will emerge.

Occidentales will be made up of athletes from Pinar del Río, Artemisa, Havana, and Isla de la Juventud, and Centro-Occidente will include those from Mayabeque, Matanzas, Villa Clara, and Ciego de Avila.

Centrales will be made up of representatives from Sancti Spíritus, Cienfuegos, Camagüey, and Las Tunas, and Orientales will call up the best from Granma, Holguín, Santiago de Cuba, and Guantánamo.

In each stage they will play each other in a round-robin format, with a rest day between each round, and with Camagey as the initial venue.

They will then move to Santiago de Cuba, play in Ciego de Avila and conclude the regular stage in Havana.

The two teams with the best positions in the standings, which will be cumulative in nature, will play a best-of-three play-off for the title.

The first match will be played at the headquarters of the second-placed team, and in the following two days they will travel to the headquarters of the best-placed team in search of the definition.

Dalia Henry, national commissioner of that discipline, confirmed to JIT that the bronze medal will be awarded automatically to the third place team in the standings.

This will be determined by the average number of games won and lost, applying the tie-breaking criteria established by the international federation for its competitions.

"We hope to be able to successfully carry out this tournament, which is a great celebration of basketball in Cuba, we are preparing for it and we adapted a new format taking into account the current conditions that the country is experiencing," Henry said.

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