

# 100 things hoosiers fans should know do before they die stan sutton

100 things Hoosiers fans should know do before they die Stan Sutton is an essential guide for anyone passionate about Indiana University sports, particularly basketball. Whether you are a lifelong fan or a newcomer to the Hoosier Nation, there is a rich tapestry of experiences, traditions, and knowledge that every true Hoosier should embrace. This article will explore the top 100 things that every Indiana basketball enthusiast should know and do before they die, ensuring that you are fully immersed in the lore and legacy of Hoosier sports.

## 1. Understand the History of Indiana Basketball

### The Origins

Indiana basketball has deep roots, dating back to the early 1900s. The passion for the game can be traced to small-town high schools, where basketball became a pivotal part of community life.

### Key Figures

Familiarize yourself with iconic figures such as:

- Branch McCracken: A legendary coach who led the Hoosiers to multiple championships.
- Bob Knight: The controversial yet revered coach known for his discipline and winning mentality.

### Championships Won

The Indiana Hoosiers men's basketball team has won five NCAA championships:

1. 1940
2. 1953
3. 1976
4. 1981
5. 1987

## 2. Attend a Game at Assembly Hall

### The Venue

Assembly Hall, also known as Simon Skjodt Assembly Hall, is the heartbeat of Hoosier basketball. Its unique architecture and vibrant atmosphere make it a must-visit.

## **Game Day Experience**

- Arrive early to soak in the atmosphere.
- Participate in the pre-game rituals, such as the "Hoo Hoo Hoo" chant.
- Experience the excitement of the crowd and the famous "Indiana Fight Song."

## **3. Engage with the Hoosier Community**

### **Join a Fan Club**

Become a part of groups like the Hoosier Nation or alumni chapters to connect with fellow fans.

### **Attend Hoosier Hysteria**

This annual event marks the official start of the basketball season and is a fantastic way to meet players and coaches.

## **4. Learn the Traditions**

### **Famous Cheers and Chants**

Understand the significance of chants like:

- "Let's Go Hoosiers!"
- "Defense!"

### **Rivalries**

Know the history and intensity of rivalries, particularly with teams like Purdue and Kentucky.

## **5. Explore the Hoosiers' Legendary Players**

### **Iconic Names**

Learn about the incredible talent that has graced the court, including:

- Isiah Thomas: One of the NBA's greatest point guards.
- Steve Alford: A sharpshooting guard who led the Hoosiers to their 1987 title.

## **6. Visit the Indiana University Campus**

### **Campus Landmarks**

Take a tour of the beautiful Bloomington campus, stop by notable spots:

- The Sample Gates
- The Lilly Library

### **The Hall of Fame**

Visit the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame to see exhibits dedicated to Hoosier legends.

## **7. Discover the Media Coverage**

### **Local and National Coverage**

Stay updated with local media like the Indianapolis Star, and follow national coverage to keep track of the team's progress.

## **8. Taste Local Cuisine**

### **Famous Eateries**

Try local favorites such as:

- The Chocolate Moose: Known for its incredible ice cream.
- Mother Bear's Pizza: A popular spot for fans before games.

## **9. Participate in Basketball Clinics**

### **Youth Programs**

Get involved with youth clinics often hosted by the team, which helps foster the next generation of basketball players.

## **10. Collect Memorabilia**

## **Iconic Merchandise**

Start a collection that includes:

- Vintage jerseys
- Autographed basketballs
- Game programs

## **11. Learn the "Hooiser" Way of Life**

### **Community Involvement**

Understand the importance of giving back to the community that supports the team.

### **Spirit and Loyalty**

Embrace the unwavering loyalty that defines Hoosier fans, regardless of the team's performance.

## **12. Follow the Women's Basketball Team**

### **Equal Passion**

Recognize the achievements of the Indiana women's basketball team, who have also made significant strides in recent years.

## **13. Experience the NCAA Tournament**

### **March Madness**

If possible, attend an NCAA tournament game to experience the thrill of March Madness firsthand.

## **14. Participate in the Hoosier Tradition of Tailgating**

### **Pre-Game Festivities**

Join fellow fans for tailgating before games, where food, drinks, and camaraderie create a festive atmosphere.

## **15. Visit Historic Sites Related to Indiana Basketball**

### **Memorial Stadium**

While primarily a football venue, understanding its significance in Indiana athletics is essential.

### **High School Basketball Heritage**

Visit iconic high school gyms that have hosted legendary games.

## **16. Attend a Big Ten Conference Game**

### **Rivalry Matchups**

Experience the intensity of Big Ten basketball, where every game counts.

## **17. Follow Current Trends and News**

### **Stay Informed**

Utilize social media and sports news outlets to keep up with the latest updates on players and team performance.

## **18. Celebrate Indiana Basketball Achievements**

### **Acknowledge Milestones**

Celebrate the team's achievements, such as reaching the NCAA tournament or individual player accolades.

## **19. Cherish Iconic Moments**

### **Memorable Games**

Watch classic games that define the Hoosier legacy, like the 1976 championship run.

## **20. Take a Photo with the IU Mascot, "Bloopy" the Hoosier**

### **Fan Interaction**

Capture memories with the mascot during games and events for a fun experience.

## **21. Connect with IU Alumni**

### **Networking Opportunities**

Join alumni events to build connections and share experiences with other passionate fans.

## **22. Study the Impact of Bob Knight's Coaching Philosophy**

### **Legacy and Controversy**

Understand how Knight's approach shaped the program and influenced future coaches.

## **23. Experience the "Hoosier Pride" Firsthand**

### **Community Events**

Participate in community events that celebrate Indiana's basketball culture.

## **24. Invest in Game Tickets for Rivalry Matches**

### **High Demand Games**

Secure tickets for high-stakes games against rivals for an unforgettable experience.

## **25. Learn about Indiana's Basketball Culture**

### **Small Town Influence**

Understand how small-town basketball influenced the state's passion for the sport.

## **26. Support Local High School Teams**

### **Community Engagement**

Attend local high school games to witness the grassroots of Hoosier basketball.

## **27. Celebrate the "Sweet Sixteen" and Beyond**

### **March Madness Excitement**

Join in the excitement when the Hoosiers make it to the tournament's later rounds.

## **28. Participate in Fantasy Basketball Leagues**

### **Engagement with the Game**

Get involved in fantasy leagues to deepen your understanding of player performance and strategy.

## **29. Watch the Hoosiers in the Big Ten Tournament**

### **Postseason Thrills**

Experience the energy and competition of the conference tournament.

## **30. Follow the Hoosiers on Social Media**

## **Stay Connected**

Engage with the team through platforms like Twitter and Instagram for updates and fan interactions.

## **31. Read Books About Indiana Basketball**

### **Expand Your Knowledge**

Consider reading biographies and histories that delve deeper into the culture and achievements of the Hoosiers.

## **32. Experience Bloomington's Nightlife**

### **Post-Game Celebrations**

Explore local bars and restaurants after games to continue the celebration with fellow fans.

## **33. Embrace the Spirit of the Hoosier Nation**

### **Team Loyalty**

Understand that being a Hoosier fan is about pride, tradition, and community.

## **34. Attend the NCAA Hall of Champions**

### **A Celebration of Sports**

Visit this venue to learn more about the impact of basketball in Indiana and the nation.

## **35. Participate in Charity Events Hosted by the Team**