



**GRSA**<sup>TM</sup>

**GREATER RALEIGH  
SPORTS ALLIANCE**

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**GAME PLAN**

*raleighsports.org*

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
FOR SPORTS PLANNERS ONLY



PROPERTY OF: GREATER RALEIGH SPORTS ALLIANCE  
A division of the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau

When you're game-planning your next sporting event, turn to Greater Raleigh. We've got it all -- world-class venues and first-rate hotels, all set in a naturally beautiful region that is centrally located, easily accessible and affordable ... not to mention brimming with Southern hospitality! No wonder North Carolina's capital city area has carved its niche as one of the hottest sports destinations in the nation.

## A RESUME OF SUCCESS

### 2015

Rock 'n' Roll Marathon  
Ironman Raleigh 70.3  
NCAA Division II World Series  
State Games of North Carolina  
NCAA Division I Women's Golf Regionals  
National Black Heritage Championship Swim Meet

### 2014

Rock 'n' Roll Marathon  
Ironman Raleigh 70.3  
NCAA Men's Basketball Regional  
NCAA Division I Men's Golf Regionals  
NCAA Division II Outdoor Track & Field Championship  
US Lacrosse Southeast Championships  
National Black Heritage Championship Swim Meet  
Southern Conference Men's Soccer Championship

### 2013

NCHSAA Swimming State Championship  
Shaw University Softball Challenge  
USA Baseball-Irish Classic  
AAU Basketball Boys Easter Super Regional  
ACC Men's and Women's Outdoor Track & Field Championships  
ACC Men's and Women's Tennis Championships  
NCAA DII Baseball Championship  
Ironman Raleigh 70.3  
2Hot4 Ice National Games (Inline Hockey)  
NCAA Women's College Cup  
USA Baseball Tournament of Stars,  
National Black Heritage Championship Swim Meet  
USA Ultimate US Open and Convention  
Deep South Classic

Raleigh also hosts  
12 high school  
state championships  
every year.

### 2012

US Table Tennis Olympic Trials  
NCAA Women's Basketball Regionals  
NCAA Women's Gymnastics Regionals  
USA Gymnastics Men's Region 8 Championships  
Deep South Classic  
ACC Men's and Women's Tennis Championships  
NCAA DIII Men's and Women's Tennis Championships  
National Black Heritage Championship Swim Meet  
NCAA DII Baseball Championship  
NCAA Baseball Regional  
SAS Championship  
Great American Cross Country Festival  
US Figure Skating Regionals  
ACC Women's Soccer Championship  
Southern Conference Men's Soccer Championship

### 2011

NHL All-Star Weekend  
USA Swimming Sectionals  
Deep South Classic  
ACC Women's Lacrosse Championship  
ACC Men's and Women's Tennis Championship  
NCAA DII Baseball Championship  
USA Baseball Tournament of Stars  
PONY Softball Nationals  
Senior Softball USA Eastern Nationals  
SAS Championship (PGA Champions Tour)  
ACC Men's and Women's Soccer Championships  
Nike Cross Nationals Southeast Regional Championship  
NCHSAA 1A, 2A, 2AA Football State Championship  
Highschool OT Basketball Holiday Invitational

### 2010

Mid Atlantic Power League (Volleyball)  
NCHSAA State Swimming Championships  
ACC Wrestling Championship  
ACC Men's and Women's Tennis Championships  
NCAA DII Baseball Championships  
Special Olympics of NC Summer Games  
PONY Softball Nationals  
Bullfrog USTA Sectionals  
US Figure Skating Regionals  
NCAA DII Cross Country Regionals  
NCAA Women's College Cup



- Home of the NHL's Carolina Hurricanes, 2006 Stanley Cup Champions
- Home of NC State University Wolfpack Men's basketball
- Opened in 1999
- Capacity: up to 19,722
- 60 luxury suites  
2,000 club seats
- 700,000 sq. ft.  
a 9,100 sq. ft. restaurant
- Hosts more than 150 events and 1.5 million guests per year

## PNC Arena SCOUTING REPORT



NOTE: Can hold nearly 20K people

—VERY VERSATILE—

Multi-sport Capabilities

Hosted the 2004 NHL Entry Draft,  
and the 2011 NHL All-Star Game

Has hosted the  
Stanley Cup Finals (twice)

NCAA's March Madness (six times!)





### Five County Stadium in Zebulon

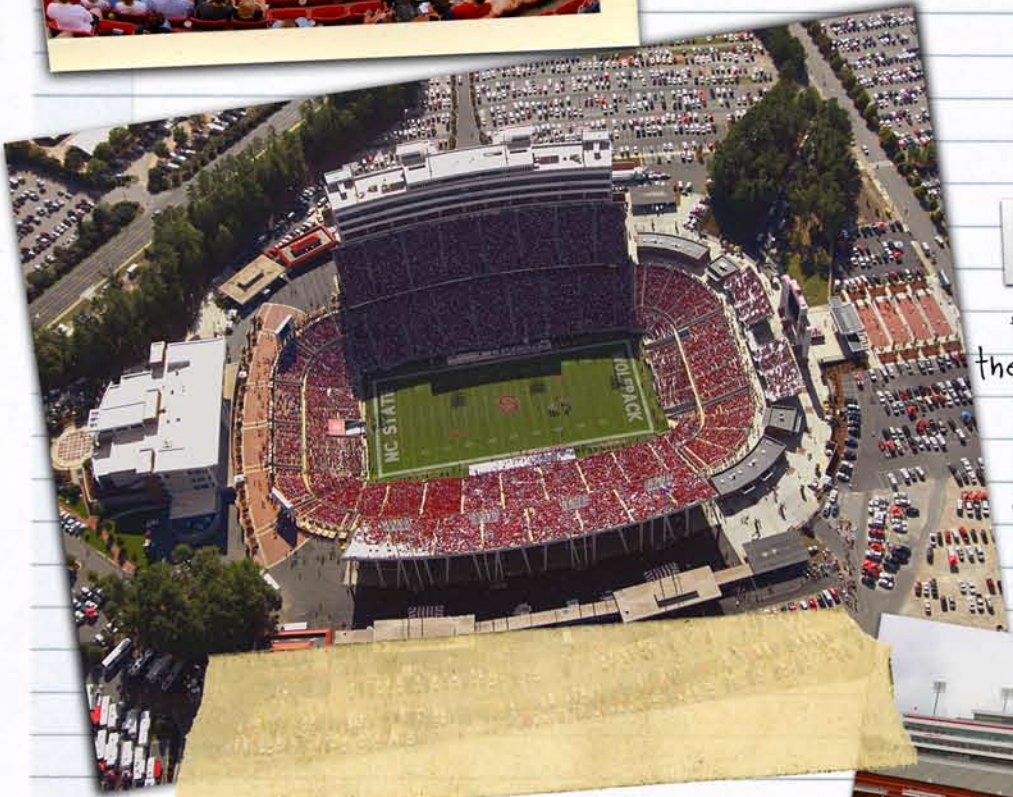


Home of the Carolina Mudcats,  
the Class A Advanced  
affiliate of the Cleveland Indians

Hosted the  
2008 Southern League  
All-Star Game

Capacity:  
6,500

NOTES



Home of  
the NC State  
Wolfpack

60,000  
Seats

### Carter-Finley Stadium

Vaughn Towers, 117,000 sq. ft. with 51 luxury suites,  
1,000 club seats, media accommodations

### WRAL Soccer Center



### The CASL visitRaleigh.com National Soccer Series

The Capital Area Soccer League (CASL), based in Raleigh, is one of the largest and most successful soccer organizations of its kind in the United States. Founded in 1974, CASL is home to more than 20,000 players, coaches and volunteers and 800 local youth teams. In addition, CASL also creates and hosts some of the most highly-regarded youth soccer tournaments in country. The centerpiece event is the CASL visitRaleigh.com National Soccer Series (NSS). The NSS features four tournaments over a five-week stretch each fall. Annually more than 1,000 teams from 40 states traveled to North Carolina for the National Soccer Series, further establishing Greater Raleigh's reputation as "America's Soccer Capital."

- \* 25 fields including 3 turf
- \* stadium field (turf, lighted) with seating for 2,500

### NOT JUST FOR SOCCER...

- \* Home of the 2013 USA Ultimate US Open
- \* Host of 2011-2014 US Lacrosse Southeast Championships

5000 MUCH IN CARY, IT'S SCARY



WakeMed Soccer Park

- Home of the Carolina RailHawks (North American Soccer League)
- Koka Booth Stadium capacity of 750
- recent renovations: 10,000 total permanent seating, brand new team facilities & multi-purpose/meeting space
- Host of the 2003-2010 and the 2013 NCAA College Cup
- WakeMed Stadium capacity of 10,000
- 7 total fields (2 stadium and 5 additional)



-TENNIS EVERYONE?-

30 COURTS!

Cary Tennis Park



- The premier tennis complex in the Southeast
- 30 courts!
- Home of the ACC Tennis Championships (2005-2007; 2009-2013); home of the 2007, 2008 and 2011 USTA National Campus Championships
- Home of the 2012 NCAA Division III Tennis National Championships



Cross Country Course at WakeMed Soccer Park

- World-class course in a natural, wooded setting
- Home of the 2009-2013 Great American Cross Country Festival; 2008-2013 Nike Cross Nationals Southeast Regionals

Sensational Softball Venues

- Thomas Brooks Park (4 fields)
- Middle Creek Park (4 fields)



USA Baseball National Training Complex

- Opened in 2007
- Home of amateur baseball in the U.S.
- site of 2009-2015 NCAA Baseball Division II National Championship
- also annual host of National High School Invitational, USA Baseball-Irish Classic, Tournament of Stars, National Team Identification Series



NOTES

SPECIAL INFORMATION

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## FORE!

### Prestonwood Country Club (Private)

- Home of the SAS Championship (PGA Champions Tour)
- 54 holes (3 courses)



### TPC at Wakefield Plantation (Private)

- Home of the Rex Hospital Open (PGA Web.com Tour)
- Designed by Hale Irwin
- 7,257 yards (par 71)



### Lonnie Poole Golf Course at NC State University (Public)

- hosting the 2014 NCAA Division I Men's Golf Regional, 2015 NCAA Division I Women's Golf Regional
- Designed by Arnold Palmer
- 7,210 yards (par 72)



Greater Raleigh is home to more than 20 public and private golf courses, offering a wide selection for all levels of golfers.

Visit [raleighsports.org](http://raleighsports.org) for a complete listing of area clubs and courses.

raleighsports.org

The New Downtown Raleigh

- Incredible Upside
- A Can't-Miss Prospect



## Raleigh Convention Center

- OPENED IN THE FALL 2008
- 500,000 sq. ft. of functional space; 150,000 square foot exhibit hall
- Site of NCHSAA Cheerleading Championships, Mid-Atlantic Power League Volleyball (100+ teams, 24 volleyball courts), Wolfpack Invitational Wrestling, Pop Warner Cheerleading Championships, Deep South Classic basketball tournament, Ironman Expo, USA Gymnastics Men's Regional Championship
- Hosted the 2011 NHL All-Star Fan Fest and All-Star Game Draft
- LEED Silver Certified
- Wired and wireless internet throughout building
- State-of-the-art sound and lighting in every room



## Notes

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- Located in Cary
- Opened in fall 2007
- 3 POOLS  
(including 50-meter competition pool)
- Seating capacity for 1,000
- Home of the 2009-2015 National Black Heritage Championship Swim Meet
- Host of 2011 USA Swimming Southern Zone Championships



## Triangle Aquatic Center



## Notes

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- USA BMX sanctioned track
- Host of the 2012 USA BMX Redline Cup Finals
- Host of 2009 ABA BMX East Coast Nationals

## Capital City — BMX —



## George Williams Athletic Complex



- Home of the Saint Augustine's University Falcons football team + Track & Field teams
- World-class, 9-lane track and field facility
- 2,500 permanent spectator seating
- Host of the 2014 NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championships

## Notes

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PHOTO: City Of Raleigh/GRCVB



### Some other first-rate venues in Greater Raleigh

- Bond Park Community Center
- Buffaloe Road Athletic Park
- Dail Softball Stadium
- Doak Field
- Dorton Arena
- Dream Sports Center
- The Factory Ballpark
- The Factory Ice House & MVP Sports Center
- Millbrook Exchange Tennis Center
- Paul Derr Complex
- Pullen Aquatic Center
- Raleigh Rugby Complex
- Reynolds Coliseum

Go to [raleighsports.org](http://raleighsports.org) for more information about these fantastic sports facilities & more.

### Walnut Creek Softball Complex

- Home of the 2005 & 2006 NCAA Division III Softball Championship
- Home of the 2008-2013 Senior Softball-USA Eastern Nationals
- NCHSAA Softball State Championships

9 FIELDS!

GREATER RALEIGH is easily accessible from anywhere in the U. S., whether you're using your ground game or an aerial approach.



### RDU International Airport

- Terminal 2 recently underwent \$600 MILLION RENOVATION
- non-stop flights to nearly 40 destinations, 400 daily arrivals & departures, serving more than 9 million passengers per year



## 10 REASONS TO BRING YOUR NEXT EVENT TO GREATER RALEIGH

### 1. VENUES & FACILITIES

World-class. First-rate. State-of-the-art. Top-of-the-line. Pick your favorite cliché, and it probably applies to Greater Raleigh. Our area is fortunate to have a wealth of superb venues, enabling the Raleigh area to host a wide array of sporting events. If venues and facilities are indeed the bread and butter of our industry, then event rights-holders will be eating well and coming back for seconds once they experience all that Greater Raleigh has to offer.

### 2. CENTRAL LOCATION

Raleigh is located on the East Coast, about halfway between New York and Florida. About half of the U.S. population lives within a day's drive of Raleigh. Two major north-south interstates, I-95 and I-85, pass within 25 miles of Raleigh, and I-40, which runs east to west, passes through the capital city. The convenient location and the opportunity to increase registration and attendance are key reasons why many sporting event rights-holders have selected Greater Raleigh.

### 3. RDU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Flying to Raleigh is easy... and inexpensive. RDU International, located about 15 minutes west of downtown Raleigh, offers 350 daily flights to 38 destinations. RDU is big enough to get you just about anywhere but small enough to navigate without feeling overwhelmed. And best of all, you'll find that the cost of flying into RDU will not ruin your travel budget. Fares are ultra-competitive (read: very affordable). What's more, over the last 10 years, RDU has consistently ranked among the friendliest and fastest-growing airports in the United States.

### 4. HOTELS, HOTELS, HOTELS

Greater Raleigh is home to 140 hotels with more than 15,000 rooms. Dozens of hotels are convenient to virtually all of our primary sports venues, and you will find a wealth of options from which to choose. Whether you want full-service, limited service or extended stay, or perhaps you're more interested in a specific location, finding just the right hotel in Greater Raleigh will be as easy as a breakaway layout.

### 5. TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESS

The list of major sporting events held in Greater Raleigh is as lengthy as it is impressive. From the 1999 Special Olympics World Summer Games to NCAA basketball's "March Madness," from the 2003 WUSA All-Star Game to a myriad of AAU events, the Raleigh area has been a successful host to all sorts of tournaments, championships and special events.

### 6. WONDEFUL WEATHER

Central North Carolina is famous for its pleasant weather year-round. Our summers are warm (okay, they're really hot) and sun-splashed, and our winters are comfortable and crisp. Spring and fall are simply spectacular.

### 7. A "SPORTS FRIENDLY" COMMUNITY

Folks around here love their sports. In fact, they are down-right passionate about it. Whether playing it, watching it in person or on TV, or supporting it in any number of ways, the Raleigh area has proven itself time and time again to be one of the most sports-friendly regions of the country. That's one reason why events receive a warm welcome here and typically turn out to be very successful.

### 8. GRSA AT YOUR SERVICE

The Greater Raleigh Sports Alliance staff can help event rights-holders and planners in a variety of ways. Contact us by phone or e-mail for assistance with bid preparation, site inspections, venue selection, hotel arrangements... just as a starting point. If you have an event that's a good fit for our community, we'll do everything we can to bring it here and make it successful.

### 9. FAMILY FUN

In between games, on off days or after the competition is complete, you can take advantage of dozens of free family attractions in Greater Raleigh. The capital city area is replete with museums, parks and lakes, cultural and historic attractions, and special events and festivals. It's a fabulous destination that can turn a sporting event into a family getaway or vacation.

### 10. AND SO MUCH MORE

No event would be complete without excellent shopping and dining opportunities. And in that regard, you simply can't go wrong in Raleigh. This is a shopper's paradise and a culinary capital. And, since Raleigh is centrally located in North Carolina, one of America's most scenic states, you are just a short drive from places like Chapel Hill, Durham and Pinehurst, and an easy drive to our majestic mountains and spectacular beaches.

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A division of the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau

Greater Raleigh = Greater Sports



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The official site of the sports event industry in Raleigh and Wake County, N.C.