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The Game is On in Virginia Beach

East Coast Resort City Boasts Nine World-Class Sports Venues

(Virginia Beach, Va. 2007) – Virginia Beach is the East Coast Mecca for sports enthusiasts, showcasing a amenities that rival most metropolitan areas and the pleasant atmosphere of a warm, coastal town. The \$202.5 million Virginia Beach Convention Center along with a large number of sporting venues make Virginia Beach a top destination for regional and national sporting events. For more information, please visit www.vbsports.com.

Virginia Beach Sportsplex

This state-of-the-art, three-level stadium seats 10,000 to accommodate both soccer and other field sporting events. In addition to the bleacher and berm seating, fans enjoy a picnic area, press level and six luxury suites. The facility features 2,076 parking spaces, along with satellite parking, four concession stands, two fully-equipped locker rooms with separate trainers’ rooms and television production level lighting, allowing events to be broadcast. Events featured at the Sportsplex include Hampton Roads Mariners A-League Professional Men's Soccer, USA Rugby Collegiate National Championship and NCAA Division II Soccer Championships.



Jane P. Batten Student Center at Virginia Wesleyan College

Home of the Virginia Wesleyan Marlins, this facility offers 137,000 square feet of multi-purpose student and athletic facilities including a 36-foot climbing wall, an 8-lane/25-yard indoor pool, auxiliary gym and main gym. Other features include full service team and individual locker rooms, training equipment, concessions and media area.



Virginia Beach National

The Virginia Beach National is a must-play for golfers of all levels. This 18-hole championship layout is surrounded in hardwood forests and rolling meadows, just minutes from the oceanfront. Designed for the purpose of tournament play and reaching an intimidating 7,432 yards from the back tees, the course can satisfy the desires of the world’s top players, while five other sets of tees ensure an enjoyable round for golfers of all skill levels.

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Hampton Roads Soccer Complex

Hosting players of all ages, from all over the East Coast, the Hampton Roads Soccer Complex features 75-acres of green fields and goalposts. Plenty of dribbling, chip shots and side tackles go on here, as the venue accommodates over 50,000 players each year. 19 grass turf fields of varying sizes offer playing time for a mix of youth and adult soccer leagues.

USA Field Hockey National Training Center at Virginia Beach

Home of several national and international tournaments including the USA Field Hockey National Futures Tournament and the International Field Hockey Four Nation Tournament, this facility features two artificial, international, competition-quality turf fields. The fields each offer an irrigation system with high-powered watering systems. Other events held at the training center include the Residential Training Program for USA Field Hockey National Team and the USA vs. South Africa training series.



Virginia Beach Convention Center

Completed in January 2007, the new Virginia Beach Convention Center offers unique accommodations for athletes of every game, including a 150,012 sq. ft. column-free exhibit hall. Events scheduled at the Convention Center include the AAU Junior Olympic games (wrestling, cheerleading and dance) and the USA Gymnastics U.S. Classic. This facility marks the official start line of the Virginia Beach Shamrock Marathon. The Rock-n-Roll Half Marathon's Sports and Fitness Expo and finish line are also located at this facility.

Virginia Beach Oceanfront

Bask in the sun and feel the sand between your toes as you battle it out on the Virginia Beach oceanfront. With 13 miles of public access beach, the oceanfront is the perfect place for a game of beach volleyball, sand soccer or hanging-10 as competitors ride the waves to shore. Among the sporting events held at the oceanfront include the North American Sand Soccer Championship, the East Coast Surfing Championship, the Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon finish line, the Sandman Triathlon and the Shamrock Marathon and 8k.



Owl Creek Municipal Tennis Center

This facility is the headquarters for all city tennis class planning and Parks and Recreation-sponsored tennis tournaments. Practice courts, 14 lighted courts, and shower facilities enable even the novice player to perform like a pro. The center also features a pro shop with tennis apparel, racquet repairs and stringing service.

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Local Public Schools: The second largest school system in Virginia, the Virginia Beach Public Schools are "ahead of the curve." In addition to the 55 elementary schools and 15 middle schools, the city features 11 high schools with hardwood floors and air-conditioned gyms. National events held in the Virginia Beach City Public Schools include the AAU Boys 12 & Under Basketball Tournament, the AAU Girls 14 & Under Basketball Tournament, Tidewater Volleyball Association Virginia Beach Open and the Boo Williams Basketball Invitational.

With sports facilities that appeal to both national and international sporting associations, Virginia Beach is the ideal place for every athlete to compete like a champion.

The Virginia Beach CVB invites meeting planners to "Bring it to the Beach!" Virginia Beach is four hours southeast of Washington, D.C. by car and within a day's drive or less from two-thirds of the U.S. population. For the latest information and project updates on the new Virginia Beach Convention Center, visit www.vbmeetings.com. Media information and digital images are available at www.vbpressroom.com.

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