

Governor Carney and Mayor Purzycki Announce New Wilmington Sports Complex, Home to 76ers NBA G League Team

140,000-square-foot facility, developed by the Buccini/Pollin Group, will be named "76ers Fieldhouse"

WILMINGTON, Del. – During a news conference today in Wilmington, Delaware Governor John Carney and Wilmington Mayor Mike Purzycki will join the Philadelphia 76ers and the Buccini/Pollin Group to announce construction of a 140,000-square-foot, multi-purpose sports complex and youth training center in Wilmington. The new facility will be built on an 8.9 acre parcel of land off U.S. Route 13 and Garasches Lane. The sports complex is designed to be the premier center for youth sports in Delaware while providing thousands of underserved youth with new sports programming and opportunities.

The facility will be named "76ers Fieldhouse" and will be the new home for the 76ers NBA G League affiliate team, the Delaware 87ers. The team will play its home games at 76ers Fieldhouse, configured to host approximately 2,500 fans per game. Additionally, the 76ers will leverage its sales and sponsorship expertise to secure unique partnerships for 76ers Fieldhouse, including naming rights partners.



*Rendering of the 76ers Fieldhouse
from the Buccini/Pollin Group.
Click to enlarge.*

“The Philadelphia 76ers are truly the Delaware Valley’s team, and we’re fortunate to have an incredible fanbase across Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. We are thrilled to partner with BPG on 76ers Fieldhouse in Delaware to serve as home to both our NBA G League team and hundreds of youth teams and athletes each year,” **76ers President Chris Heck** said. “We’ve set out to create a facility in a city on the rise like Wilmington for our NBA G League team that furthers the 76ers’ commitment to being leaders in sports performance and athlete care. We’re fortunate to partner with a group as respected and accomplished as BPG to reach this goal, while also bringing these amenities to youth teams and athletes in this area. With the support of Delaware Governor John Carney, Wilmington Mayor Michael Purzycki and our fans across the state, we’re excited to further demonstrate our commitment to Delaware by launching 76ers Fieldhouse.”

“This announcement by the 76ers organization confirms again that Wilmington is a great place for companies to invest, expand, and grow,” said **Governor John Carney**. “We couldn’t be more excited to help announce the new 76ers Fieldhouse, which will bring an NBA G League team to our city, and help connect development along the banks of the Christina River. Importantly, this facility will create jobs, expand opportunities for kids in Wilmington to participate in sports activities, and attract even more visitors to our great state. Thank you to the 76ers organization and the Buccini/Pollin Group for their commitment to Delaware, and their continued partnership.”

“We are proud to welcome the 76ers and their G league team to the City of Wilmington. The new sports facility will be among the finest in the country for a city our size. This fieldhouse, larger than the Chase Center, will be an outstanding venue for the Delaware sports hungry public,” states **Wilmington Mayor Mike Purzycki**. “This also answers our residents call for healthy options for our kids. Wilmington’s

children will be primary beneficiaries of the many levels of programming provided by this magnificent facility. Our gratitude to Buccini/Pollin and the 76ers organization for placing their faith in our great city.”

The Buccini/Pollin Group (BPG) will manage the development and construction of the facility on the site, which is currently owned by the Riverfront Development Corporation (RDC), and sits at the foot of the new Christina River Bridge that will ultimately connect both banks of the Christina Riverfront.

“This new facility will be the impetus for the development we have envisioned on the East bank of the Christina River,” says **Megan McGlinchey, Executive Director of the RDC**. “The location delivers an excellent gateway into Wilmington and the Riverfront. Plus, we are thrilled that the Delaware 87ers will now join the growing list of successful family-friendly attractions already located here.”

In addition to the exciting arrival of the 76ers Fieldhouse, the complex will support youth athletic training sessions as well as youth basketball, soccer, volleyball, lacrosse, football and other sport competitions through its dynamic mixed-use program including three full-sized, professional basketball courts, two indoor turf soccer fields, a world-class sports performance and athletic training area, as well as retail and office space.

Tenants who are planning to offer services at the 76ers Fieldhouse include TITUS, which will bring its performance training center to the complex and Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children part of the Nemours Children’s Health System, which will bring its advanced Sports Medicine capabilities, including pediatric orthopedics and sports physical therapy, to the facility.

Titus Sports Academy, founded in 2001, focuses on long-term athletic development and optimization through training,

nutrition and recovery plans based on specific needs of each sport, level or mission. TITUS utilizes technological assessment, evaluation and management tools that allow all athletes the opportunity to improve. The TITUS staff are highly experienced and have trained athletes from hundreds of schools, colleges and professional teams that regularly set the standard for excellence in human performance (www.TheTitusReport.com). “We are excited to share in this unique opportunity and vision which combines elite-level programs, a world-class facility and positive community impact,” says **Shawn Hoffman, Managing Partner at Titus Sports.**

Nemours is an internationally recognized children’s health system that owns and operates the Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, along with outpatient facilities in Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, delivering pediatric primary, specialty and urgent care. Established as The Nemours Foundation through the legacy and philanthropy of Alfred I. duPont, Nemours provides pediatric clinical care, research, education, advocacy, and prevention programs to families in the communities it serves. “The building of the 76ers Fieldhouse is a very welcome addition to the ever-expanding and evolving Wilmington Riverfront. Nemours Children’s Health System is proud to be a part of this new venture in Wilmington. We look forward to expanding our superior and compassionate pediatric care with this new location in Wilmington,” says **Roy Proujansky, MD, Chief Executive of Delaware Valley Operations, Nemours Children’s Health System.**

The 76ers Fieldhouse will be available for events and field use by local and regional sports clubs and competitions as well. Local youth organizations will be able to practice, train and play soccer, volleyball, basketball, lacrosse, football and other sports here, for both competitive and community outreach purposes. Future Soccer Stars Foundation (FSS), a nonprofit providing free soccer programs for

economically disadvantaged children in the City of Wilmington (www.fssfoundation.org), and the Delaware Football Club (DEFC) which includes Delaware Rush, Delaware Union, and Kirkwood Soccer players (www.delawarefc.org), are two such organizations that work both independently and collaboratively to enhance youth soccer in the region, and have both committed to this facility as their home. **Steve Cavalier is the Founder and Executive Director of FSS, and Coach at DEFC.** “By working together, FSS and DEFC create the access and launch points (respectively) of a streamlined and coherent soccer pathway for all children regardless of ethnicity, background, or socioeconomic status. Where FSS introduces play, DEFC, in conjunction with high school play, provides the highest levels of competition before college and beyond.”

DEFC is the product of a long-term vision by its member clubs to create a recognizable soccer pathway for children in Delaware and surrounding states. It is designed to allow young players to move from recreation soccer through competitive club and high school soccer with the greatest opportunity to play in college and even professional soccer. “This is all done from the state of Delaware,” states **Ian Hennessey who serves as both the head men’s coach at the University of Delaware and the Technical Director at DEFC.** “DEFC is providing opportunities for families, who sometimes feel the need to leave the state to find a similar pathway. This new facility will help DEFC make these opportunities a reality.”

“The Fieldhouse and its partners, and specifically the full-sized soccer fields, will provide FSS the environment and room to house its fast-growing programs and annual events,” says **Oliver Yeh, who serves as Board Chair at FSS.** “In addition, FSS will have the capacity to run a centralized youth soccer league for the City of Wilmington. It will be a safe place for children to play, a home that will stoke a communal hometown pride, and a place where aspirations can grow to great heights.”

The Buccini/Pollin Group has engaged arena specialists Rossetti Architects of Detroit, MI to design the 76ers Fieldhouse, which will be a highly visible facility and a landmark for the connection of the east and west banks of the Christina River. "I am gratified by the Sixers decision to be part of this transformative project for Wilmington," says **Rob Buccini, Co-President and Co-Founder of The Buccini/Pollin Group**. "Their confidence and commitment are affirmations that Wilmington continues to move in the right direction. In addition to providing sports, training and health services for youth in our City and throughout the region, the facility will be a significant economic generator. With the addition of tournaments and associated visitors, the 76ers Fieldhouse will positively impact the local economy."

A formal groundbreaking ceremony is being planned for the first quarter of 2018, with a season ticket deposit campaign for the NBA G League team also set to begin at the start of the new year. For information on field use reservations, events, and other ways to support the 76ers Fieldhouse please visit www.76ersfieldhouse.com.

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