

# Sports Facility Reports



*[Sports Facility Reports, Volume 6, Appendix 4.1](#)*

## Other Hockey Leagues

### **American Hockey League (AHL) (AAA)**

**Team:** Albany River Rats

**Affiliate:** New Jersey Devils

**Principal Owner:** Walter Robb

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Pepsi Arena

**Date Built:** 1990

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Pepsi Arena will host the 2006 NCAA Hockey Championship East Regionals. Pepsi is paying \$3 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2007.

**Team:** Binghamton Senators

**Affiliate:** Ottawa Senators

**Front Office:** Thomas Mitchell - Executive VP. Of Operations

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Broome County Veterans Memorial Arena

**Date Built:** 1973

[Facility Website](#)

**Team:** Bridgeport Sound Tigers

**Affiliate:** New York Islanders  
**Principal Owner:** New York Islanders  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Bridgeport Arena at Harbor Yard  
**Date Built:** 2001  
**Facility Cost (millions):** \$35 M  
**Facility Financing:** 100% state funded.  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In July 2004, The New York Islanders purchased the Sound Tigers after dropping a lawsuit against founder and former owner, Roy Boe, for failure to make affiliation payments.

**Team: Chicago Wolves**

**Affiliate:** Atlanta Thrashers  
**Principal Owners:** Don Levin, William Meyers, and Seth Gold  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Allstate Arena  
**Date Built:** 1997  
**Facility Cost (millions):** \$11 M  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Allstate is paying \$10 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expire in 2009.

**Team: Cincinnati Mighty Ducks**

**Affiliate:** No Affiliation.  
**Front Office:** Pete Robinson - President/CEO  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Cincinnati Gardens  
**Date Built:** 1949  
**Facility Cost (millions):** \$3 M  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In May 2005, the Anaheim Mighty Ducks pulled their affiliation, forcing the Cincinnati Mighty Ducks to ask the AHL for a voluntary year suspension. The team is hoping to return for the 2006-07 season with a new team name and new affiliation.

**Team: Cleveland Barons**

*Affiliate:* San Jose Sharks

**Principal Owner:** San Jose Sports and Entertainment Enterprises'

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Gund Arena

**Date Built:** 1994

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$152 M

**Facility Financing:** Built as part of a city sports complex that was funded both publicly and privately. Public funding came from state capital improvement funds and a countywide sin tax on alcohol (\$3/gallon on liquor, 16 cents/gallon on beer) and cigarettes (4.5 cents/pack) for 15 years.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Gordon Gund is paying \$14M over 20 years for the naming rights that expire in 2014.

### **Team: Edmonton Road Runners**

*Affiliate:* Edmonton Oilers

**Principal Owner:** Edmonton Investors Group Limited Partnership

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Rexall Place

**Date Built:** 1974

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$68 C

**Facility Financing:** In 1994 a \$14 M C renovation was completed.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Road Runners were moved to Edmonton, from Toronto, when the NHL lockout began. The team was moved to ensure Rexall Place would not be vacant during the hockey season. In June 2005, the Road Runners applied to the AHL for a voluntary year suspension with the hopes that the NHL would return for the 2005-06 season.

Rexall signed a 10-year deal in 2003 for an undisclosed amount for both the naming rights and the right to be the Oilers' exclusive health care provider. Terms of the deal were not disclosed but the previous deal was worth \$1.2 M in Canadian dollars.

### **Team: Grand Rapids Griffins**

*Affiliate:* Detroit Red Wings

**Principal Owner:** Dan DeVos

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Van Andel Arena

**Date Built:** 1996

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$75 M

**Facility Financing:** DeVos paid \$15 M, the Van Andels paid \$11.5 M, \$8.5 M was paid for by other private interests, and state taxes were used to fund the remainder.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Arena was named after Jay and Betty Van Andel for being the arena's largest benefactor.

**Team: Hamilton Bulldogs**

*Affiliate:* Montreal Canadiens

**Front Office:** Michael Andlauer - Chairman of the Board and Governor

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Copps Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1985

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$42.7 M

**Facility Financing:** The city borrowed \$17.79 M from the Ontario Municipal Board, \$8 M came from federal and provincial government contributed \$10.9 M from taxpayers and city reserves, and \$3.5 M came from public contributions.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The arena was named after former Mayor Victor Copps for his strong resolve to get Hamilton an arena, even though he was forced to retire, because of a heart attack, before he could accomplish his goal.

**Team: Hartford Wolf Pack**

*Affiliate:* New York Rangers

**Principal Owner:** Madison Square Garden

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Hartford Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1975

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$75 M for the arena and surrounding area.

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Hershey Bears**

*Affiliate:* Washington Capitals

**Principal Owner:** Hershey Entertainment and Resorts Company

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Giant Center

**Date Built:** 2002

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$95 million for the arena, roads, parking lots and infrastructures.

**Facility Financing:** The State contributed \$25 M towards building the Arena.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Giant Food, a grocery store chain, is paying \$4.5 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2012.

**Team: Houston Aeros**

*Affiliate:* Minnesota Wild

**Principal Owner:** Minnesota Sports and Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Toyota Center

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$235 M

**Facility Financing:** The city spent \$20 on the land for the arena. The Sports Authority will sell \$182 M in bonds to build the arena and secure \$125 M of that with money from hotel and car rental taxes. The garage project is paid for by private business. The Houston Rockets are responsible for cost overruns and have pledged to spend \$20 M on enhancements.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Houston Aeros use the Houston Rockets' arena. The Rockets signed a 20-year, \$100 million deal with Gulf States Toyota Inc, which will expire in 2023. While the naming rights deal is for 20 years, it can be extended to 30 years to match the deal that the Rockets currently have to stay in the arena.

**Team: Iowa Stars**

*Affiliate:* Dallas Stars

**Principal Owner:** Kirby Schlegel

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Wells Fargo Arena

**Date Built:** 2005

**Facility Cost (millions):** The entire facilities, called the Iowa Events Center, cost \$217 M.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In addition to the Wells Fargo Arena, the Events Center now includes a brand new two-story exhibition hall, and a remodeled auditorium. Wells Fargo Arena was the last part of the complex to be built, completed in July 2005.

**Team: Lowell Lock Monsters**

*Affiliate:* Carolina Hurricanes and Colorado Avalanche

**Principal Owner:** Elkin McCallum

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Tsongas Arena

**Date Built:** 1998

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The facility is named after the late Massachusetts Senator, Paul Tsongas, a Lowell native.

**Team: Manchester Monarchs**

*Affiliate:* Los Angeles Kings

**Front Office:** Kevin Gilmore

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Verizon Wireless Arena

**Date Built:** 2001

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$67 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Verizon is paying \$11.4 M over fifteen years for a naming rights deal that expire in 2016.

**Team: Manitoba Moose**

*Affiliate:* Vancouver Canucks

**Principal Owner:** True North Sports & Entertainment Limited

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** MTS Centre

**Date Built:** 2004

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$133.5 M

**Facility Financing:** The public sector contributed \$40.5 M and the remaining \$93 M came from private entities.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Manitoba Telecom services (MTS) is paying \$7 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expire in 2014.

**Team: Milwaukee Admirals**

*Affiliate:* Nashville Predators

**Principal Owner:** Milwaukee Admirals, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Bradley Center

**Date Built:** 1988

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$71

**Facility Financing:** Money for the arena was donated by the Pettit family as a gift to the people of Wisconsin and in memory of Jane Bradley Pettit's father Harry Lynde Bradley.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In April 2005, a group of investors led by Milwaukee Businessman Harris Turer expressed interest in buying the Admirals from the Estate of Jane Pettit. The AHL board approved the purchase in May. Turer is principle shareholder and managing member.

The money for the Bradley Center was donated by the Pettits with the understanding that it would always be named the Bradley Center after Jane Bradley Pettit's father, Harry Lynde Bradley. The Board has said that under no circumstances would the naming rights be sold.

**Team: Norfolk Admirals**

*Affiliate:* Chicago Blackhawks

**Principal Owner:** Ken Young

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Norfolk Scope

**Date Built:** 1972

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$28.1 M

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Omaha Ak-Sar-Ben Knights**

*Affiliate:* Calgary Flames

**Front Office:** Doug Soetaert - President

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Omaha Civic Auditorium

**Date Built:** 1954

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** 2005-06 is the Knights inaugural season ending Omaha's thirty-year span without hockey.

**Team: Peoria Rivermen**

*Affiliate:* St. Louis Blues

**Principal Owner:** Anne Griffith and Bruce Saur

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Carver Arena at Peoria Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1982

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$64 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In 2005 a \$55 M revitalization plan was finalized for the Carver Arena and Peoria Civic Center. The project will be financed through the Hotel/Restaurant/Amusement (HRA) taxes.

**Team: Philadelphia Phantoms**

*Affiliate:* Philadelphia Flyers

**Principal Owner:** Comcast-Spectacor, owned by Ed Snider

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Wachovia Spectrum

**Date Built:** 1967

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In 2005, the Phantoms competed for the Calder Cup in the Flyer's Wachovia Center, and drew near sellout crowds. The Wachovia Center is also owned by Comcast-Spectacor.

CoreStates Bank purchased the naming rights for \$1.4 M a year until 2023 for the Center and the Spectrum, the old arena. CoreStates was acquired by First Union, which then merged Wachovia Bank in 2001, keeping the Wachovia name. In 2003 the Center and Spectrum acquired the new name.

**Team: Portland Pirates**

*Affiliate:* Mighty Ducks of Anaheim



**Principal Owner:** Portland Pirates, LLC, with Brian Petrovek as managing owner.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Cumberland County Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1977

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In 2005 the twelve year affiliation with the Washington Capitals ended, and in May the Mighty Ducks were named as the new affiliate. The Pirates also signed a new five-year lease with the Civic Center in 2005, which will provide the Pirates with renovations to the scoreboard and locker rooms.

**Team: Providence Bruins**

*Affiliate:* Boston Bruins

**Principal Owner:** Frank DuRoss

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Dunkin' Donuts Center

**Date Built:** 1972

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$13 M

**Facility Financing:** Publicly funded.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June 2005, Rhode Island expressed interest in issuing bonds to allow the Convention Center Authority for \$28.5 M and then renovate the building for \$62 M. Dunkin' Donuts is paying \$8.65 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expire in 2011.

**Team: Rochester Americans**

*Affiliate:* Buffalo Sabres

**Principal Owner:** Randall Latona

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Blue Cross Arena at the War Memorial

**Date Built:** 1955

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$7.5 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** A \$41 M renovation and expansion was completed in 1998. Blue Cross is paying \$2.975 M over fifteen years for a naming rights deal that expire in 2013.

**Team: San Antonio Rampage**

*Affiliate:* Phoenix Coyotes

**Principal Owner:** Spurs Sports and Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** SBC Center

**Date Built:** 2002

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$175 M

**Facility Financing:** \$146.5 M was generated through a county tax increase and an increase in hotel and rental car taxes. The Spurs contributed \$28.5 M themselves, which they raised through a \$1.00 increase in ticket fees for NBA games and a \$1.00 parking surcharge. The bulk of the facilities revenues go to the team.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** At the end of June 2005, the AHL approved a multi-year affiliation between the Phoenix Coyotes and the Rampage.

With the SBC Center's completion in 2002, San Antonio had a venue that allowed the city to acquire an AHL and a WNBA team.

SBC Communications is paying \$41 M over 20 years for the naming rights that expire in 2022.

**Team: Springfield Falcons**

*Affiliate:* Tampa Bay Lightning

**Principal Owner:** ProFriends, Inc.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** MassMutual Center

**Date Built:** 1972

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The MassMutual Center underwent a massive renovation that cost approximately \$70 M.

Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company is paying \$5 M for a naming rights deal beginning in 2005.

**Team: Syracuse Crunch**

*Affiliate:* Columbus Blue Jackets

**Principal Owner:** Howard Dolgon

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** War Memorial at Oncenter

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Toronto Marlies**

*Affiliate:* Toronto Maple Leafs

**Principal Owner:** Maple Leafs Sports & Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Ricoh Coliseum

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$38 M renovation of an existing building.

**UPDATE:** The St. Johns Maple Leafs changed their name to the Marlies for the 2005-06 season. Ricoh Canada Inc. is paying \$10 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2013.

**Team: Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins**

*Affiliate:* Pittsburgh Penguins

**Principal Owner:** Mario Lemieux

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Wachovia Arena

**Date Built:** 1999

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Wachovia is paying \$2.3 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2009.

**Central Hockey League (CHL) (AA)**

**Team: Amarillo Gorillas**

**Principal Owner:** Local Owners

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Amarillo Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1960's

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In 2003 an eighteen-month renovation was completed.

**Team: Austin Ice Bats**

*Affiliate:* Houston Aeros (AHL), Minnesota Wild (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Capital Hockey Ventures  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Travis County Exposition Center  
**Date Built:** 1985  
[Facility Website](#)

**Team:** Bossier-Shreveport Mudbugs

*Affiliate:* Rochester Americans  
**Principal Owner:** John Madden  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Century Tel Center  
**Date Built:** 2000  
**Facility Cost (millions):** \$56.5 M  
**Facility Financing:** Paid for by the city.  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** CenturyTel is paying \$5 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2010.

**Team:** Colorado Eagles

**Principal Owner:** Ralph Backstrom  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Budweiser Event Center  
**Date Built:** 2003  
**Facility Cost (millions):** \$60 M  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Budweiser is paying \$1.5 M over twenty years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2023.

**Team:** Corpus Christi Rays

**Principal Owner:** Doug Frank  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** American Bank Center  
**Date Built:** 2004

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$50 M

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Fort Worth Brahmas**

**Principal Owner:** Stuart Fraser

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Fort Worth Convention Center

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** A \$75 M renovation was completed in 2003.

**Team: Laredo Bucks**

*Affiliates:* San Antonio Rampage (AHL), Florida Panthers (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Julian "Kiki" DeAyala

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Laredo Entertainment Center

**Date Built:** 2002

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$36.5 M

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Lubbock Cotton Kings**

**Principal Owner:** Mark Adams

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Lubbock Municipal Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1956

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Memphis RiverKings**

**Principal Owner:** Maddox Hockey, Inc.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Desoto Civic Center

**Date Built:** 2000

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$27.5 M

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: New Mexico Scorpions**

**Principal Owner:** Doug Frank

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Rio Rancho Events Center

**Date Built:** 2006

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$44 M

**UPDATE:** The Scorpions will not play during the 2005-2006 season, but will return to the league when their arena is open. The groundbreaking for the building was June 2005.

**Team: Odessa Jackalopes**

*Affiliate:* Edmonton Oilers

**Principal Owner:** Miles Prentice

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Ector County Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1954, renovated in 1991.

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$1.6 M for renovations.

**Team: Oklahoma City Blazers**

**Principal Owner:** Bob Funk

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Ford Center

**Date Built:** 2002

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$89 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Ford is paying \$8.1 M over fifteen years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2017.

**Team: Rio Grande Killer Bees**

**Principal Owner:** Grant Buckborough - President/GM

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Dodge Arena

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$20 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Dodge is paying \$2 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2013.

**Team: Tulsa Oilers**

**Principal Owner:** Jeff Lund

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Maxwell Convention Center

**Date Built:** 1964

**Team: Wichita Thunder**

**Front Office:** Chris Presson

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Kansas Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1977

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$10 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In January 2005 renovations began on the Kansas Coliseum. A new arena will be built as a part of the renovations, which should be completed in 2008 or 2009.

**Team: Youngstown SteelHounds**

**Principal Owner:** Herb Washington

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Youngstown Convocation Center

**Date Built:** 2005

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$41 M

**Facility Financing:** \$26.8 M is being paid for by a federal grant.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The 2005-06 season will be the inaugural season for the SteelHounds. The Youngstown Convocation Center is scheduled to open in the fall of 2005, in time for the team's first season.

**East Coast Hockey League (ECHL) (AA)**

**Team: Alaska Aces**

**Principal Owner:** Terry Parks - Managing Member

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Sullivan Arena

**Date Built:** 1983

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Augusta Lynx**

**Principal Owner:** Augusta Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Augusta-Richmond County Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1973

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June 2005, voters in Augusta voted no to a general obligation bond that would fund a new \$60 M arena for the Lynx.

**Team: Bakersfield Condors**

**Principal Owner:** Jonathan Fleisig

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Rabobank Arena

**Date Built:** 1998

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Charlotte Checkers**

**Affiliates:** Hartford Wolf Pack and Binghamton Senators (AHL); New York Rangers and Ottawa Senators (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Carl Scheer

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Cricket Arena

**Date Built:** 1955

**Facility Cost (millions):** A \$4 M renovation was completed in 1992.

[Facility Website](#)



**UPDATE:** The Checkers will move to the New Charlotte Arena for the 2005-06 Season.

**Team: Columbia Inferno**

*Affiliates:* Manitoba Moose (AHL), Vancouver Canucks (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Rick Woodard

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Carolina Coliseum

**Date Built:** 2002

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Carolina Coliseum belongs to the University of South Carolina.

*Team:* Dayton Bombers

*Affiliates:* Syracuse Crunch (AHL), Columbus Blue Jackets (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Orlando Predators Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Nutter Center

**Date Built:** 1990

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Wright State University owns the Nutter Center.

**Team: Florida Everblades**

*Affiliates:* Lowell Lock Monsters (AHL), Carolina Hurricanes (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** KTB Sports

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Germain Arena

**Date Built:** 1998

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$25 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Germain Motor Company is paying \$7 M over twenty years for a naming rights deal that expires 2018.

As of June 2005, KTB has an exclusivity agreement to negotiate the sale of the Everblades to Robert and James Brooks. If the offer is accepted the ECHL board still must approve the deal prior to any ownership changes. If the offer falls through or the exclusivity agreement expires before a deal is made, there is a second group who is still expressing interest in purchasing the team.

**Team: Fresno Falcons**

*Affiliates:* Cleveland Barons (AHL), San Jose Sharks (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Chandar Sports

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Save Mart Center

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$103

**Facility Financing:** Privately Funded.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Fresno State owns the Save Mart Center. Save Mart is paying \$20 M over twenty years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2023.

**Team: Greenville Grrrowl**

*Affiliates:* Norfolk Admirals and Edmonton Roadrunners (AHL); Chicago Blackhawks and Edmonton Oilers (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Greenville Sports and Arena, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** BI-LO Center

**Date Built:** 1998

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$63 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** BI-LO is paying \$3 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2008.

**Team: Gwinnett Gladiators**

*Affiliates:* Chicago Wolves (AHL), Atlanta Thrashers (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Gary Adams

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** The Arena at Gwinnett Center

**Date Built:** 1992

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$33 M

**Facility Financing:** Funded by Gwinnett County.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June 2005, the Gwinnett Center owners proposed an \$88M renovation.

**Team: Idaho Steelheads**

*Affiliates:* Iowa Stars (AHL), Dallas (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Diamond Sports & Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Bank of America Centre

**Date Built:** 1997

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** June 2005, an affiliation agreement was reached with the Stars. Previously, the Steelheads were affiliated with the Utah Grizzlies and the Phoenix Coyotes. However, the Grizzlies were having financial problems in the AHL and joined the ECHL after the 2004-05 season ended.

At the end of 2004, Bank of America chose not to renew their \$1 M over ten years naming rights deal. Although the naming right deal expired, the Centre will remain the Bank of America Centre until a new naming rights deal is found.

**Team: Johnstown Chiefs**

*Affiliates:* Springfield Falcons (AHL), Tampa Bay Lightning (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** RBC Sports

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Cambria County War Memorial

**Date Built:** 1950

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** An \$8 M renovation was funded by a grant from the Commonwealth. The renovation was completed in 2003.

**Team: Las Vegas Wranglers**

*Affiliate:* Calgary Flames (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Chandar Sports

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Orleans Arena

**Date Built:** 1996

**Facility Financing:** The Orleans Arena is owned by Coast Casinos.

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Long Beach Ice Dogs**

*Affiliates:* Hamilton Bulldogs (AHL) Montreal Canadiens (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Barry Kemp and Rick Adams

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Long Beach Arena

**Date Built:** 1962

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Mississippi Sea Wolves**

**Principal Owner:** Wolf Pack, LLC.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Mississippi Coast Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1977

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Pee Dee Pride**

**Front Office:** Joe Babik - President

**Arena:** Florence City-County Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1992

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$21 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Pee Dee pride was granted a one-year voluntary suspension by the ECHL. The team will return for the 2006-07 when the new arena at Coastal Carolina University is completed.

**Team: Pensacola Ice Pilots**

*Affiliates:* Toronto Marlies (AHL) Toronto Maple Leafs (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Hockey Enterprises of Pensacola, LLC.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Pensacola Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1985

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Phoenix Roadrunners**

**Principal Owner:** Suns Legacy Partners

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** America West Arena

**Date Built:** 1992

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$90 M

**Facility Financing:** The city of Phoenix contributed \$35 M with \$28 M going to construct the arena and \$7 M for the land. The NBA's Phoenix Suns contributed \$55 M. The city has a 30-year commitment from the Suns to repay a portion of the contribution at \$500,000 per year, with an annual 3% increase. The city will also receive 40% of revenue from luxury boxes and advertising.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** 2005-06 will be the Roadrunners inaugural season.

**Team: Reading Royals**

*Affiliates:* Manchester Monarchs (AHL), LA Kings (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** SMG & AEG

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Sovereign Center

**Date Built:** 2001

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$25 M

**Facility Financing:** \$12.5 M came from a state grant, \$12.5 was matched by Burkes County, partially through a 5% hotel room tax.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Sovereign Bank has a \$3 M naming rights deal.

**Team: San Diego Gulls**

*Affiliates:* Portland Pirates (AHL), Mighty Ducks of Anaheim (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Ron Hahn

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** ipayOne Center

**Date Built:** 1966

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$6.4 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In March 2005, it was announced that a naming rights deal was reached with ipayOne for the San Diego Sports Arena. IpayOne is paying \$2.5 M over five years for the deal that expires in 2010. If it is extended past five years, ipayOne will pay \$500,000 per year.

**Team: South Carolina Stingrays**

*Affiliates:* Hershey Bears (AHL), Washington Capitals (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** A local investment group led by Edward Pearlstine.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** North Charleston Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1993

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$20 M

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Stockton Thunder**

**Principal Owner:** Stockton Hockey Franchise Group, Inc

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Stockton Arena

**Date Built:** 2005

**UPDATE:** As of the completion of the 2004-05 season, the Atlantic City Boardwalk Bullies were relocated to Stockton and renamed the Thunder. The new arena will be completed in time for the start of the 2005-06 season.

**Team: Texas Wildcatters**

*Affiliates:* San Antonio Rampage (AHL), Florida Panthers (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** RBC Sports

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Ford Arena

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$72 M

**Facility Financing:** To pay for Ford Park, the complex including the arena, Jefferson County Commissioners Court issued \$55 M in certificates of obligation, \$9 M was paid for from interest from the certificates, and \$7.5 M was paid for by a refunding bond issue.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Ford is paying \$1.25 M over five years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2008.

**Team: Toledo Storm**

*Affiliates:* Grand Rapids Griffins (AHL), Detroit Red Wings (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Tim Gladieux

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Toledo Sports Arena

**Date Built:** 1949

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Negotiations are in the works for a new arena for the Storm with hopes that it will revitalize the Marina District. The estimate for the arena, quoted in June 2005, was \$70 M. Mayor Ford is attempting to get the University of Toledo as a partner in the project.

**Team: Trenton Titans**

*Affiliates:* Philadelphia Phantoms (AHL), Philadelphia Flyers (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Geoffrey Berman, Ron Berman, and Steve Cowan

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Sovereign Bank Arena

**Date Built:** 1999

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$42 M

**Facility Financing:** \$31.1 M in bonds issued by Mercer County paid for the arena; the remainder came from the city and the state.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Sovereign Bank is paying \$2.67 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2009.

**Team: Utah Grizzlies**

**Principal Owner:** Grizzlier Hockey Corporation Inc.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** The E-Center

**Date Built:** 1997

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$7 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The E-Center was built for the 2002 Winter Olympics.

**Team: Victoria Salmon Kings**

**Principal Owner:** RG Properties

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre

**Date Built:** 2005

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$30 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Save-On-Foods is paying \$1.25 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2015.

**Team: Wheeling Nailers**

**Affiliates:** Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins (AHL), Pittsburgh Penguins (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** Nailers Hockey LLC.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** WesBanco Arena

**Date Built:** 1981

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** As of April 2005, Phase I of the arena's renovations was completed at a cost of \$3.2 M.

WesBanco is paying \$2.3 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2013.

**Southern Professional Hockey League (SPHL) (AA)**

**Team: Asheville Aces**

**Principal Owner:** An Ownership group comprise of Dr. Richard Hoodenpyle, Bill Stewart, Wendell Young, Charlie Davis, Steve Stark, and Jeff Brubaker

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Asheville Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1939

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In 2001 the Civic Center began a \$25 M renovation. As of June 2005, the Aces are working on securing a new lease. Without an agreement, the Aces will not play in the 2005-06 season, and may not remain in Asheville.



**Team: Columbus Cottonmouths**

**Front Office:** Jerome Bechard

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Columbus Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1996

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Fayetteville FireAntz**

**Front Office:** Kevin MacNaught - Co-owner and president

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Crown Center Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1997

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Florida Seals**

**Principal Owner:** Florida Seals Professional Hockey, Inc.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Silver Spurs Arena

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$33 M

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Huntsville Havoc**

**Principal Owner:** Huntsville Sports Ventures, Inc

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Von Braun Center

**Date Built:** 1975

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Jacksonville Barracudas**

**Principal Owner:** Barracudas Hockey Club Inc.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$130 M

**Facility Financing:** The arena was funded with a half-penny sales tax increase and with Jacksonville's existing revenue sources.

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Knoxville Ice Bears**

**Principal Owner:** A local ownership group headed by Rita Harris

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Knoxville Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1950's

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Pee Dee Cyclones**

**Principal Owner:** Dr. Richard Hoodenpyle, and Tommy Jones

**Arena:** Florence City-County Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1992

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$21 M

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Pee Dee Cyclones are the first expansion team for the SPHL, and 2005-06 will be their inaugural season.

**United Hockey League (UHL) (AA)**

**Team: Adirondack Frostbite**

**Principal Owner:** Glens Falls Professional Hockey, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Glens Falls Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1979

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$6.9 M

**Facility Financing:** Built by the city of Glens Falls

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** ESPN Hockey analysts Barry Melrose and Steve Levy make up two of the three members in the Frostbite's ownership group.

**Team: Danbury Trashers**

**Principal Owner:** James Galante

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Danbury Ice Arena

**Date Built:** 2001

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Elmira Jackals**

**Principal Owner:** Dr. Mostafa Afr

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** First Arena

**Date Built:** 2000

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$15.5 M

**Facility Financing:** Housing and Urban Development lent \$4 M for the project, Chemung County paid \$1.25 M, the state granted \$3 M, the Afr family contributed \$7.25 M toward the arena.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** First Transit is paying \$1 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2013.

**Team: Flint Generals**

**Principal Owner:** Khaled M. Shukairy, M.D.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Perani's Arena and Event Center

**Date Built:** 1969

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Fort Wayne Komets**

**Front Office:** Michael Franke - President

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1952

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The War Memorial Coliseum was renovated in 2001 to make it more modern. This included raising the 1200-ton roof over 41 feet.

**Team: Kalamazoo Wings**

**Principal Owner:** R. T. Parfet

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Wings Stadium

**Date Built:** 1974

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June 2005, Wings Stadium became completely smoke-free.

**Team: Missouri River Otters**

**Principal Owner:** Mike Shanahan, Jr.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** The Family Arena

**Date Built:** 1999

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$35 M

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Motor City Mechanics**

**Principal Owner:** Southfield-based Michigan Sports LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Great Lakes Sports City Arena

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** 2004-05 was the Mechanics inaugural season.

**Team: Muskegon Fury**

**Principal Owner:** Tony Lisman

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** L.C. Walker Arena

**Date Built:** 1960

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$2 M

**Facility Financing:** \$1 M from L.C. Walker for the arena, and \$1 M from the city of Muskegon for land and utility connections and furnishings for the arena.

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Port Huron Flags**

**Front Office:** Dan Isenberg - President

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** McMorran Arena

**Date Built:** 1962

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$3.5 M

**Facility Financing:** The McMorran Foundation donated the original \$1.2 M to build the sports and entertainment center. Over a decade the McMorran and Murphy families, who made up the foundation, donated the remainder both through the foundation and individually.

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Quad City Mallards**

**Principal Owner:** Victory Sports Group, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** The MARK of the Quad Cities

**Date Built:** 1993

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$35 M

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Richmond RiverDogs**

**Principal Owner:** Glenn Morelli

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Richmond Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1971

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Roanoke Valley Vipers**

**Principal Owner:** Kristen Dixon

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Roanoke Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1971

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** 2005-06 will be the Valley Vipers' inaugural year.

**Team:** Rockford IceHogs

**Principal Owner:** Tri Vision Sports, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Rockford MetroCentre

**Date Built:** 1979

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In 2005, a \$3.8 M renovation was completed.