



Other Hockey Leagues

American Hockey League (AHL) (AAA)

Team: Albany River Rats

Affiliate: Carolina Hurricanes, Colorado Avalanche

Principal Owner: Walter Robb

[Team Website](#)

Arena: The Times Union

Date Built: 1990

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In April 2006, the River Rats announced a new affiliation with the Hurricanes and the Avalanche. The Hurricanes have agreed to extend their affiliation with the River Rats through the 2008-2009 season, but the Avalanche will begin a new affiliation with Cleveland next season.

NAMING RIGHTS: Last year the county signed a \$3.5 M 10-year naming-rights contract with the Times Union which will expire in 2016. The newspaper agreed to pay \$350,000 a year, as well as provide advertising and other promotional benefits.

Team: Binghamton Senators

Affiliate: Ottawa Senators

Principle Owner: Thomas Mitchell (also the Executive Vice President of Operations)

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Broome County Veterans Memorial Arena

Date Built: 1973

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Binghamton Senators have just reached a new five year lease to use Broome County's Veterans Memorial Arena, the smallest building in the AHL. The building has been upgraded with improved locker rooms, exercise rooms, and skyboxes while the team pays minimal rent and enjoys a share of advertising, concession, and parking revenues. Furthermore, the county is seeking a private management group to run the arena. Two firms solicited proposals last year, Philadelphia-based SMG and the B-Sens, but the county legislature defeated a proposal that would have either running the facilities.

Team: Bridgeport Sound Tigers

Affiliate: New York Islanders

Principal Owner: Charles Wang

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Bridgeport Arena at Harbor Yard

Date Built: 2001

Facility Cost (millions): \$35

Facility Financing: 100% publicly funded.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Charles Wang won sole ownership in May 2006 after a decade long partnership with protégé Sanjay Kumar. The commissioner of the NHL settled Wang and Kumar's standing dispute in an arbitration decision that removed Kumar from ownership. As part of the agreement, Wang must pay Kumar \$1 M a year for the next nine years. The partners' dispute occurred at the same time Kumar plead guilty to a 10-count indictment charging him with securities fraud, conspiracy, and obstruction of justice.

Team: Chicago Wolves

Affiliate: Atlanta Thrashers

Principal Owners: Don Levin, William Meyers and Seth Gold

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Allstate Arena

Date Built: 1980 (renovated in 1999)

Facility Cost (millions): \$11

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Allstate Insurance Company is paying \$10 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2009. In addition, Allstate paid \$20 million to renovate the arena in 1999.

Team: Grand Rapids Griffins

Affiliate: Detroit Red Wings

Principal Owner: Dan DeVos and David Van Andel

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Van Andel Arena

Date Built: 1996

Facility Cost (millions): \$75

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: A new VIP club will open later this year at Van Andel Arena, offering sports fans a new venue to get a meal and a drink. The construction cost for the club will be \$350,000 and will be built in what is now the arena's largest banquet room. In addition, the team will pay consultants \$21,000 a year, plus expenses to develop programs, attract entertainment, and implement culturally competent customer service that will appeal to more African-Americans and Latinos. The consultants will conduct studies and workshops to address a lack of minority attendance at the arena.

NAMING RIGHTS: Grand Action was responsible for securing the name to the Van Andel Arena, named for Amway founder, Jay Van Andel, who gave \$11.5 M toward the arena.

Team: Hamilton Bulldogs

Affiliate: Montreal Canadiens
Principle Owner : Michael Andlauer
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Copps Coliseum

Date Built: 1985

Facility Cost (millions): \$42.7

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

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2007, there were reports that an agreement with Waterloo billionaire Jim Balsillie was reactivated allowing him exclusive rights to bring an NHL team to Copps Coliseum. Prior to this agreement, Basillie agreed to purchase the Nashville Predators of the NHL for \$220 M; however, the deal is not binding.

NAMING RIGHTS: The coliseum is named after Vic Copps, a long-time Hamilton mayor and father of federal Heritage Minister Sheila Copps. In 2001, Ontario considered selling the naming rights of the coliseum to generate more revenue, but the city ceased its search after Sheila Copps claimed a name change would be an insult to her father Vic.

Team: Hartford Wolf Pack

Affiliate: New York Rangers

Principal Owner: Madison Square Garden L.P.

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Hartford Civic Center Veterans Memorial Coliseum

Date Built: 1975 (Heavily renovated in 1980 after the original roof collapsed).

Facility Cost (millions): \$75 M

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: With the Civic Center's 30th Anniversary approaching, the city of Hartford is seeking a consulting team to investigate the viability of a multi-use coliseum facility in downtown Hartford.

For now, the Hartford Wolf Pack will continue to call the Civic Center home even after the Rangers recently signed a multi-year affiliation agreement with Northland AEG LLC, the new Hartford Civic Center building operator. As of July 2007, Northland AEG LLC became responsible for the day-to-day business operations of the Wolf Pack, including marketing, sponsorship and ticket sales, while Madison Square Garden and the Rangers retain ownership of

the Wolf Pack and continue to be responsible for on-ice team decisions, including coaching and player movement.

Team: Hershey Bears

Affiliate: Washington Capitals

Principal Owner: Hershey Entertainment & Resorts Company

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Giant Center

Date Built: 2002

Facility Cost (millions): \$95 M for the arena, roads, parking lots, and infrastructures; \$65 M for the arena itself.

Publicly Financed: 40%

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

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS : 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: Charles Watson

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Toyota Center

Date Built: 2003

Facility Cost (millions): \$235

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

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: In July 2003, the Rockets signed a 20-year, \$100 million deal with Gulf States Toyota Inc., which will expire in 2023. The major lure for Toyota to sign the naming rights deal with Houston was the NBA's Houston Rockets signing of Yao Ming, who is very popular in the Asian market. While Toyota Motor Sales USA and Toyota Motor Corporation in

Japan signed off on the deal and will fund an undisclosed portion of the purchase, Gulf States Toyota and the dealerships that it represents will be paying most of the fee. 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: Howard Baldwin and Bob & Kirby Schlegel

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Wells Fargo Arena

Date Built: 2005

Facility Cost (millions): \$217 M for the entire facility, called the Iowa Events Center.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Despite rumors, Stars owners do not plan to relocate the team for at least another six years. According to the Stars lease with Polk County, the Schlegels have vowed that the franchise will remain in Des Moines through the 10-year lease ending in 2014. In addition, they have promised not to apply or seek AHL approval for relocation until 2013.

NAMING RIGHTS: Wells Fargo is paying \$11.5 M over twenty years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2025.

Team: Lowell Devils

Affiliate: New Jersey Devils

Principal Owner: New Jersey Devils

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Tsongas Arena

Date Built: 1998

Facility Cost (millions): \$28

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2006, the Devils bought the Lowell Lock Monsters from Elkin McCallum. Along with the purchase came a change in the team's name and logo. In addition, the Lowell Devils will be paying more to play hockey at the Tsongas Arena according to a June 2007

agreement approved by the City Council. Last year, the Devils paid \$150,000, but according to the new deal the team will pay \$275,000 per year.

Team: Manchester Monarchs

Affiliate: Los Angeles Kings

Principal Owner: Anschutz Entertainment Group (AEG)

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Verizon Wireless Arena

Date Built: 2001

Facility Cost (millions): \$67

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Despite rumors, the Monarchs do not plan to move into a new arena. The Monarchs' current lease in Manchester's Verizon Wireless Arena extends to 2015. Furthermore, inside sources say it would be costly for AEG to end its lease and move into a new facility.

NAMING RIGHTS : Verizon is paying \$11.4 M over fifteen years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2016.

Team: Manitoba Moose

Affiliate: Vancouver Canucks

Principal Owner: True North Sports & Entertainment Limited; headed by Kevin Maclean

[Team Website](#)

Arena: MTS Centre

Date Built: 2004

Facility Cost (millions): \$133.5 Canadian; \$126 US

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

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In October 2006, the MTS Centre improved its washroom facilities to eliminate long lines. In addition, 340 demountable seats replaced 352 narrower retractable chairs in the lower bowl. MTS also created a peanut-restricted zone for spectators allergic to the snacks. The total renovation was a little more than \$120,000.

NAMING RIGHTS: Manitoba Telecom Services (MTS) is paying \$7 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2014.

Team: Milwaukee Admirals

Affiliate: Nashville Predators

Principal Owner: Milwaukee Admirals, LLC

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Bradley Center

Date Built: 1988

Facility Cost (millions): \$90

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 February 2007, Nashville Predators Executive Vice President David Poile and Milwaukee Admirals CEO Harris Turer announced that the Admirals will continue to serve as the Predators' top developmental affiliate through the 2009-2010 season.

Furthermore, in April 2007, Bucks owner Herbert Kohl expressed his desire for a new Bucks arena. Kohl has lost money in recent years since the Bradley Center lacks the ability to provide in-stadium revenue and a sizable media market. For now, Kohl is pushing for an extended lease with the Bradley Center, which would allow the Bucks to play an additional year rent-free and would also buy time for Kohl to formulate a plan to generate revenue for a new arena.

NAMING RIGHTS: 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: Tampa Bay Lightning

Principal Owner: Norfolk Tides Baseball Club; managing partner Ken Young

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Norfolk Scope Arena

Date Built: 1971

Facility Cost (millions): \$28.1

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In April 2007, the Norfolk Admirals announced a five-year NHL affiliate agreement with the Tampa Bay Lightning. The Norfolk Admirals used to be affiliated with the Chicago Blackhawks.

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

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In 2005, a \$55 M revitalization plan was finalized for the Carver Arena and Peoria Civic Center. Construction began at the end of 2005 and is expected to be completed in 2007. The project is being financed through the city's Hotel/Restaurant/Amusement (HRA) taxes.

While the Center's renovations are being completed, the Rivermen installed a new poly-acrylic rink glass and a yellow, dasher-board kick plate. In addition, the team purchased a new Zamboni Model 540 ice resurfacing machine.

Team: Philadelphia Phantoms

Affiliate: Philadelphia Flyers

Principal Owner: Comcast-Spectacor, owned by Ed Snider

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Wachovia Spectrum

Date Built: 1967

Facility Costs (millions): \$7

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: CoreStates Bank purchased the naming rights for \$1.4 M a year until 2023 for the Wachovia Center and Wachovia Spectrum. CoreStates was acquired by First Union,

which then merged with Wachovia Bank in 2001, keeping the Wachovia name. In 2003 the Center and Spectrum acquired the new name.

Team: Portland Pirates

Affiliate: Anaheim Ducks

Principal Owner: Portland Pirates, LLC; headed by Brian Petrovek

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Cumberland County Civic Center

Date Built: 1977

Facility Costs (millions): \$5

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: After a year of debate, the Cumberland County Civic Center board of trustees determined that it would be financially smart to renovate the existing Civic Center rather than build a new facility. No public entity has been willing to fund a new arena, which would require taxpayer money. Furthermore, the city of Portland has too many competing priorities to fund the arena itself. The problem with renovating the arena is that the Civic Center is situated on a small urban piece of land with no room to expand. In late June 2007, the county hired a Baltimore architectural firm for \$175,000 to determine whether the 1970s building can be updated appropriately.

Team: Providence Bruins

Affiliate: Boston Bruins

Principal Owner: H. Larue Renfroe

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Dunkin' Donuts Center

Date Built: 1972

Facility Cost (millions): \$13

Facility Financing: Publicly funded.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In the fall of 2006, H. Larue Renfroe bought the Providence Bruins franchise from Frank DuRoss for a reported \$3.5 million. Renfroe is president of Assurance Technology Corporation of Carlisle and owner of the New England Sports Center in Marlboro.

In addition, construction began in July 2006 for a \$62 M renovation that will include new seats, suites, a new scoreboard, a sound system, a redesigned concourse, and an expanded lobby. An enclosed pedestrian bridge will also be built between the Convention Center and the Dunkin' Donuts Center. The arena will be operational during construction, and the project is expected to be completed by the 2008-09 season.

NAMING RIGHTS: Dunkin' Donuts is paying \$8.65 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2011.

Team: Quad City Flames

Affiliate: Calgary Flames

Principal Owner: The Calgary Flames

[Team Website](#)

Arena: The MARK of the Quad Cities

Date Built: 1993

Facility Cost (millions): \$36

Facility Financing: The arena was funded by \$28 M from a state grant, \$6.1 M from general obligation bonds, and \$2 M in private funds.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In May 2007, the Calgary Flames announced that the Omaha Ak-Sar-Ben Knights would relocate to the Quad Cities of eastern Iowa and western Illinois for the 2007-2008 season. The Knights had not generated much revenue nor had they retained large attendance records the past two seasons due to the competition of two other hockey teams in the metro area.

NAMING RIGHTS: In August 2005, i-wireless (a T-Mobile affiliate) announced a 10-year agreement with The Mark and the Quad City Civic Center Authority to secure naming rights of the arena, but no name change has taken place as of July 2007.

Team: Rochester Americans

Affiliate: Buffalo Sabres, Florida Panthers

Principal Owner: Steve Donner

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Blue Cross Arena at the War Memorial

Date Built: 1955

Facility Cost (millions): \$7.5 M (\$41 M renovation and expansion completed in 1998).

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Americans' original lease was to expire in June 2007, but the team will play in the Blue Cross Arena at the War Memorial for another year with their contract extension with SMG announced in May 2007. Prior to the agreement, the team's future had been uncertain for the 2007-2008 season since President Steve Donner threatened the team would not play without more money. Mayor Robert Duffy announced that the lease extension provides time to create a long-term solution to keep hockey in Rochester.

NAMING RIGHTS: Blue Cross is paying \$2.975 M over fifteen years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2013.

Team: Rockford IceHogs

Principal Owner: Centre Events, Dr. Kris Tumilowicz, and Craig Drecktrah

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Rockford MetroCentre

Date Built: 1979

Facility Cost (millions): \$3.8 M renovation was completed in 2005.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In May 2007, the IceHogs moved from the UHL to the more prestigious AHL. In addition, MetroCentre will receive a \$20 million renovation, inside and out, to match the team's upgrade.

Team: San Antonio Rampage

Affiliate: Phoenix Coyotes

Principal Owner: Spurs Sports and Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

Arena: AT&T Center

Date Built: 2002

Facility Cost (millions): \$175

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.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The name of the arena was changed to the AT&T Center in January 2006. The change was made after SBC Communications acquired AT&T and adopted the name AT&T Inc.

NAMING RIGHTS: AT&T Inc. is paying \$41 M over 20 years for the naming rights that expire in 2022.

Team: Springfield Falcons

Affiliate: Edmonton Oilers

Principal Owner: Springfield Pro Hockey, LLC

[Team Website](#)

Arena: MassMutual Center

Date Built: 1972

Facility Cost (millions): A \$71 M renovation of the existing building was completed in 2005.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In March 2007, the team announced that given its ninth straight losing season, it was exercising its option to end its affiliation with the Tampa Bay Lightning and signed a three-year affiliation agreement with NHL's Edmonton Oilers. This will be the Oilers first AHL affiliate since the 2004-2005 season.

NAMING RIGHTS: Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company is paying \$5 M for a naming rights deal that began in 2005.

Team: Syracuse Crunch

Affiliate: Columbus Blue Jackets

Principal Owner: Howard Dolgon

[Team Website](#)

Arena: War Memorial at Oncenter Complex

Date Built: 1951

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Crunch and the Blue Jackets affiliation contract for the 2006-07 season was extended for at least another four years. In addition, money for War Memorial improvements rose to a top priority recently when Oncenter and Syracuse Crunch hockey team officials reached a new five-year lease agreement. An estimated \$7 million is required to complete the proposed renovations, which includes roof repairs and improvements to restrooms, halls, and stairways.

Team: Toronto Marlies

Affiliate: Toronto Maple Leafs

Principal Owner: Maple Leafs Sports & Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Ricoh Coliseum

Date Built: 1921

Facility Cost (millions): \$38 M renovation of an existing building in 2003.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Marlies and the Toronto Maple Leafs will be practicing in a new facility beginning in late 2008. The new Lions arena will be shared with the Etobicoke Dolphins, the second-largest women's hockey organization in Canada, along with supplying ice time for a local youth club, and city-subsidized rental time for school users. The project's estimated cost is \$33.6 million.

NAMING RIGHTS: 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: Pittsburgh Penguins

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Wachovia Arena at Casey Plaza

Date Built: 1999

Facility Cost (millions): \$44

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The 8,300-seat facility is managed by SMG and has been recognized by many magazines as one of the best in the country for arenas under 10,000 in capacity, especially since

its attendance record is consistently in the top three teams. The Penguins hold the record for the most sellouts in a season, selling out 39 home games.

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

Team: Worcester Sharks

Affiliate: San Jose Sharks

Principal Owner: San Jose Sports and Entertainment Enterprises; headed by Greg Jamison, President & CEO.

[Team Website](#)

Arena: DCU Center

Date Built: 1982

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: After the 2005-06 season, the San Jose Sharks chose to move their minor league team, the Cleveland Barons, to Worcester, Massachusetts. In January 2007, former Governor Mitt Romney signed a bill authorizing Worcester to borrow up to \$30 million to finance upgrades to the DCU Center and the construction of the skyway, which connects the Hilton Garden Hotel with the DCU Center and the municipal parking garage.

NAMING RIGHTS: Digital Federal Credit Union is paying \$5.2 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2014.

Central Hockey League (CHL) (AA)

Team: Amarillo Gorillas

Front Office: Darren McLean

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Amarillo Civic Center

Date Built: 1964

Facility Financing: In 1999 a \$10 M bond was approved for a new arena at the fair grounds and renovations to the Civic Center. Private donations funded the remaining amount totaling \$19.6 M in construction for the two buildings. The construction was completed in 2003. The bond was secured by a 2% hotel tax and a 5% car rental tax.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In February 2007, city leaders, the Civic Center, and the Gorillas came to an agreement to keep hockey in Amarillo through at least 2012, but in April, the team was posted for sale on eBay for \$1.2 million. The owners said they posted the team on the website to gain national advertising to either expand the ownership group or to change ownership entirely.

Team: Arizona Sundogs

Affiliate: Colorado Avalanche (NHL)

Principal Owner: Eric Lacroix and Shawn P. Fowler

Most Recent Purchase Price (millions): \$1

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Tim's Toyota Center

Date Built: 2006

Facility Cost (millions): \$25

Facility Financing: Prescott Valley paid \$3 M for the arena with 2% of the local sales tax generated within an adjacent entertainment area set aside each year to cover debt service on the private-sector bonds used to finance the arena.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Tim's Toyota, a local Toyota dealership in Prescott Valley, Arizona, paid an undisclosed amount for the naming rights to the arena.

Team: Austin Ice Bats

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

Principal Owner: Capital Hockey Ventures Ltd.

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Chaparral Ice Center

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Ice Bats will began play in the Chaparral Ice Center for the 2006-07 season. The Ice Center underwent a \$3 million major renovation to be able to host the Ice Bats, including expansion of the concession area and remodeling the club area. The club intends to use the Chaparral Ice Center temporarily while it works out considerations for a new arena.

Team: Bossier-Shreveport Mudbugs

Affiliate: Rochester Americans (AHL), Buffalo Sabers (NHL)

Principal Owner: John Madden and Rob Walker

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Century Tel Center

Date Built: 2000

Facility Cost (millions): \$56.5

Facility Financing: Paid for by the city.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: After the 2006-2007 season, John Madden expressed his desire to put his half of the Mudbugs up for sale, but after much debate Madden decided not to sell.

NAMING RIGHTS: 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
[Facility Website](#)

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

Team: Corpus Christi Rayz

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

Arena: American Bank Center
Date Built: 2004
Facility Cost (millions): \$50
Facility Financing : Funded by a 1/8th cent sales tax approved by Corpus Christi voters in November 2000.
[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: American Bank secured a 10-year naming rights agreement that expires in 2014. The terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

Team: Laredo Bucks

Affiliates: San Antonio Rampage (AHL), Phoenix Coyotes (NHL)
Principal Owner: Glenn Hart and Julian "Kiki" DeAyala
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Laredo Entertainment Center
Date Built: 2002
Facility Cost (millions): \$36.5
Facility Financing: Publicly financed through a sales tax increase.
[Facility Website](#)

Team: Lubbock Cotton Kings

Principal Owner: Mark Adams

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Lubbock Municipal Coliseum

Date Built: 1956

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Cotton Kings signed a contract with the City of Lubbock in 2006 to extend its lease for another year through the 2006-2007 season. In June 2007, the Central Hockey League (CHL) declared that the Cotton Kings were on a one year hiatus for the 2007-2008 season when the team faced trouble negotiating its new lease with the city, making it difficult to prepare for the upcoming season. With the team unable to negotiate a new lease with Lubbock for the City Bank Coliseum, some believe that hockey in Lubbock will come to an end.

Team: Mississippi RiverKings

Affiliate: Hartford Wolf Pack (AHL), New York Rangers (NHL)

Principal Owner: Maddox Hockey, Inc.

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Desoto Civic Center

Date Built: 2000

Facility Cost (millions): \$27.5

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In 2007, Maddox Hockey allowed the fans to vote on a new name for the team. In July, it was announced that the team would be known as the Mississippi RiverKings instead of the Memphis RiverKings. Maddox believes the name will now reflect the entire region rather than just the state, and although the name has changed, the franchise remains the same.

Team: New Mexico Scorpions

Principal Owner: Scorpions Hockey Club, LLC

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Santa Ana Star Center

Date Built: 2006

Facility Cost (millions): \$47

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The new Santa Ana Star Center opened its doors in October 2006. The facility is the centerpiece of the City Center, which will eventually include a new City hall, a shopping area, and the Lionsgate Films studio.

NAMING RIGHTS: The Santa Ana Star Casino purchased the five-year naming rights deal for \$2.5 million, which will expire in 2011.

Team: Odessa Jackalopes

Affiliate: Edmonton Oilers (NHL)

Principal Owner: Miles Prentice and Bob Richmond

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Ector County Coliseum

Date Built: 1954 (renovated in 1991)

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

UPDATE: Ector County Commissioners approved \$38.1 million in city renovations. One million will be used to install a new air conditioning system in the Coliseum, and an additional \$85,000 will be used to build a new stage. The county plans to pay for these renovations by raising taxes.

Team: Oklahoma City Blazers

Principal Owner: Express Personnel Services, Inc.; headed by Bob Funk

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Ford Center

Date Built: 2002

Facility Cost (millions): \$89

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Oklahoma City made efforts to bring an NBA and an NHL team to the Ford Center after the success the New Orleans Hornets had there during their hiatus from home due to Hurricane Katrina, but the city's efforts have proven unsuccessful so far. The city will continue

to look for a franchise since it believes the Oklahoma City market is ready to support a big league team.

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

Team: Rio Grande Valley Killer Bees

Principal Owner: Joe Sakulenzki

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Dodge Arena

Date Built: 2003

Facility Cost (millions): \$23

[Facility Website](#)

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

Team: Rocky Mountain Rage

Principal Owner: Tim Wiens and John Frew

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Broomfield Event Center

Date Built: 2006

Facility Cost (millions): \$45

Facility Financing : The Event Center was financed through tax revenues generated by real estate development.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The CHL announced that the Broomfield Event Center will host the CHL's 2008 All-Star Game, which will be held January 15-16.

Team: Texas Brahmas

Principal Owner: Stuart Fraser, Dr. Salvatore Trazzera, Frank Trazzera, Knute Anderson and Jim Makens

[Team Website](#)

Arena: NYTEX Sports Centre

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Fort Worth Brahmas suspended operations for the 2006-07 season when the team and the city could not negotiate a financially feasible lease for the team. The team announced it will return to the CHL in October 2007 but with a new name, a new home, and a mix of local ownership. The Brahmas and NYTEX Sports reached a leasing contract allowing the team to play at the former Blue Line Ice Complex in North Richland Hills in suburban Fort Worth, Texas. The newly renovated facility opened in June and will be officially named in the near future. The team will now be known as the Texas Brahmas.

Team: Tulsa Oilers

Principal Owner: Jeff Lund

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Tulsa Expo Square Pavilion

Date Built: 1966

Facility Cost (millions): \$3.5

Facility Financing: Paid for with a bond issue.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Tulsa Convention Center will undergo a massive reconstruction from August 2007 until September 2008, leaving the Oilers without an arena. The Oilers plan on sharing the Expo Square Pavilion with the NBDL's Tulsa 66ers until the completion of the new BOK Center in 2008 where the Oilers will finally call home. Until then, the Oilers will not have their own locker rooms in the Expo Square Pavilion and will have to set-up and bring their equipment in before every game.

Team: Wichita Thunder

Front Office: Chris Presson (General Manager)

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Kansas Coliseum
Date Built: 1977
Facility Cost (millions): \$10
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Sedgwick County plans to build a new arena in downtown Wichita, which should be completed in 2009. The budget for the project is \$184.5 M and is being financed through a sales tax, which is projected to raise \$201M. SMG put in a bid to manage Sedgwick's new arena estimating it could bring in eight large concerts, two NBA exhibition games, and 32 hockey games. The project has met some competition though from Oilman Wink Hartman, who proposes to build a 5,000 seat arena for indoor soccer, football, and basketball, which he will privately finance. The Wichita Thunder will most likely play in Sedgwick County's new arena because it is bigger and the team is hoping to bring in more than 5,000 fans for its games.

Team: Youngstown SteelHounds

Affiliate: Columbus Blue Jackets (NHL), Syracuse Crunch (AHL), and Dayton Bombers (ECHL)
Principal Owner: Herb Washington
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Chevrolet Centre
Date Built: 2005
Facility Cost (millions): \$41
Facility Financing: \$26.8 M was paid for by a federal grant.
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The SteelHounds have introduced two new programs that are designed to make 2007-2008 season-tickets more affordable and enjoyable. First, fans will have the option to make monthly payments as low as \$42 a month. Second, fans will receive a SteelHounds Satisfaction Guarantee, meaning full season ticket holders may receive a full refund if they are not satisfied with their SteelHound experience. The SteelHounds hope these programs will encourage more season-ticket sales.

NAMING RIGHTS: General Motors agreed to a five-year naming rights contract of \$1 million, which will expire in 2010.

Appendix 4.2

East Coast Hockey League (ECHL) (AA)

Team: Alaska Aces

Affiliates: Peoria Rivermen (AHL), St. Louis Blues (NHL)

Principal Owner: Terry Parks

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Sullivan Arena

Date Built: 1983

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2007, Governor Sarah Palin vetoed the Alaskan legislature's \$2.5 million appropriations to fix Sullivan Arena's leaky roof. Although \$2 million will only begin to fix all that needs to be done, repairing the 24-year-old arena's leaky roof is critical since buckets suspend from the arena's rafters to collect the water.

NAMING RIGHTS: The Arena is named after former Anchorage mayor George M. Sullivan and is now owned by the Municipality of Anchorage.

Team: Augusta Lynx

Affiliates: Portland Pirates (AHL), Anaheim Ducks (NHL)

Principal Owner: Group Operating the Augusta Lynx, LLC (GOAL)

[Team Website](#)

Arena: James Brown Arena

Date Built: 1973

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Augusta-Richmond County Civic Center was renamed the James Brown Arena on August 22, 2006. The city has debated whether to tear down the existing arena and rebuild a new one, or renovate the existing arena. City officials want to honor the late musician and would either keep the James Brown name for the new arena or renovate it to a standard that would be more suitable for concerts.

Team: Bakersfield Condors

Principal Owner: Bakersfield Sports Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Rabobank Arena

Date Built: 1998

Facility Cost (millions): \$38

Facility Financing : Publicly financed by the City of Bakersfield.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Rabobank has exclusive naming rights for seven years at a rate of \$1 million a year with the option to extend it to ten years. The arena will revert back to the name Centennial Garden unless a new sponsor is found.

Team: Charlotte Checkers

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

Principal Owner: Michael Kahn

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Charlotte Bobcats Arena

Date Built: 2003

Facility Cost (millions): \$265

Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: 100%

Facility Financing : Two bonds, backed by revenue from city tourist taxes. Bank of America, Duke Energy, and Wachovia underwrote \$100 M in exchange for approximately \$50 M from the sale of real estate downtown, where the venue is located. \$16.8 M came from exclusive food and beverage rights, and a 3% seat tax at events in city arenas generated \$15 M. The balance came from the team.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2007, the Charlotte Coliseum, the biggest building in professional basketball, was torn down marking the end of the city's biggest indoor arena. The Charlotte Bobcats Arena replaced the Coliseum as the home of the NBA's Charlotte Bobcats to try and boost fan support and attendance, but the Coliseum was still used for concerts and indoor sports in recent years. In 2006, the Arena became home to the ECHL's Charlotte Checkers.

Team: Cincinnati Cyclones

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

Principal Owner: Nederlander Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

Arena: U.S. Bank Arena

Date Built: 1975

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Cyclones returned for the 2006-2007 season after a two year hiatus due to financial difficulties.

NAMING RIGHTS: U.S. Bank is currently under a 10-year, \$3 M naming rights deal for the arena.

Team: Columbia Inferno

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

Principal Owner: Dr. Ezra Riber and Sam Imbeau

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Carolina Coliseum

Date Built: 1968

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Inferno hoped to be playing in a new arena at the start of its 2007-08 season, but financing delays prevented construction from beginning on time. The arena will be part of a \$30 M sports and entertainment complex, which will include a practice rink and an \$8 to \$10 M hotel. The plans were helped by the Lexington County Council's decision to pay \$2 M to acquire the land for the project.

Team: Dayton Bombers

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

Principal Owner: Donco Entertainment, LLC; headed by Costa Papista and Don MacAdam

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Nutter Center
Date Built: 1990
Facility Costs (millions): \$34.5
[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Wright State University owns the Nutter Center and has a \$2.8 million naming rights deal indefinitely.

Team: Florida Everblades

Affiliates: Albany River Rats (AHL), Carolina Hurricanes & Florida Panthers (NHL)
Principal Owner: Peter Karmanos Jr., Thomas Thewes, and Craig Bush
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Germain Arena
Date Built: 1998
Facility Cost (millions): \$25
[Facility Website](#)

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

Team: Fresno Falcons

Affiliates: Worcester Sharks (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](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Save Mart is paying \$20 M over twenty years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2023.

Team: Gwinnett Gladiators

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

Principal Owner: Gwinnett County Hockey, LLC

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Gwinnett Center

Date Built: 2003

Facility Cost (millions): \$65

Facility Financing: Funded by Gwinnett County.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Upcoming events at Gwinnett Center include the SEC women's gymnastics championship in 2008 and the NCAA women's basketball tournament's first and second round games in 2009.

Team: Idaho Steelheads

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

Principal Owner: Idaho Sports Properties/Block 22; headed by John Cunningham

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Qwest Arena

Date Built: 1997

Facility Cost (millions): \$50

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Qwest Communications signed a naming rights deal with Idaho Sports Properties/Block 22 in October 2005 for \$4 million for 15 years.

Team: Johnstown Chiefs

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

Principal Owner: Neil Smith and Ned Nakles

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Cambria County War Memorial Arena

Date Built: 1950

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The famous hockey movie Slap Shot was filmed in Johnstown and the Cambria County War Memorial Arena. In the movie, the team was known as the Charlestown Chiefs and the now Johnstown Chiefs readily jumped on the idea to tie their team name into the movie. The Chiefs are the only ECHL team that plays in its original town and with its original name.

Team: Las Vegas Wranglers

Affiliate: Omaha Ak-Sar-Ben Knights (AHL), Calgary Flames (NHL)

Principal Owner: Chandar Sports; headed by Charles Davenport

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Orleans Arena

Date Built: 1996

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Long Beach Ice Dogs

Principal Owner: Power Play Entertainment, LLC

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Long Beach Arena

Date Built: 1962

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Long Beach Ice Dogs have suspended operations for the 2007-2008 season, as owners admit they are unable to financially make it through the season. When Ontario enters the ECHL, it will control territorial rights to Long Beach, meaning the franchise will probably move.

Team: Mississippi Sea Wolves

Principal Owner: Wolf Pack, LLC
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Mississippi Coast Coliseum
Date Built: 1977
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Hurricane Katrina caused over \$30 M worth of damage to the Mississippi Coast Coliseum. Due to the extent of the damage, the Sea Wolves missed the past two seasons; however, the arena was rebuilt for \$6 million and the team will return for the 2007-2008 season.

Team: Pensacola Ice Pilots

Affiliates: Bridgeport Sound Tigers (AHL) / New York Islanders (NHL)
Principal Owner: Hockey Enterprises of Pensacola, LLC.
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Pensacola Civic Center
Date Built: 1985, with the ice added in 1996
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In March 2007, the Ice Pilots ownership announced they would be let out of the final year of their lease in the Pensacola Civic Center and would not return for the 2007-2008 season. Ice Pilots' fans expressed their disapproval and ten days later, the ownership began negotiating with Escambia County officials to keep the team in Pensacola. The Ice Pilots will finish their remaining season at Pensacola, but the team's future following the 2007-2008 season is unclear.

Team: Phoenix Roadrunners

Affiliates: Phoenix Coyotes (NHL) and San Antonio Rampage (AHL)
Principal Owner: Suns Legacy Partners
[Team Website](#)

Arena: US Airways Center
Date Built: 1992
Facility Cost (millions): \$90
Facility Financing: The City of Phoenix contributed \$35 M with \$28 M given to construct the arena and \$7 M used to buy 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: UPDATE: After \$67 million and four years of renovations inside and out, the U.S. Airways Center has become a model arena to other franchises. Renovations started in 2001 when the Suns spent \$15 million to widen concourses, rebuild concessions, add rest rooms, and build their first premium club with 1,400 seats. Prior to this, the Center had suites to accommodate a limited amount of wealthier patrons but it still lacked other premium experiences, such as clubs and restaurants, to increase revenue. In 2003, the Suns spent \$35 million to build a 15,000-square-foot glass pavilion, complete with will-call and ticket windows. Finally, in 2004, a new scoreboard and a second club were constructed. The Suns determined that renovating its arena would be just as profitable as building one from scratch.

NAMING RIGHTS: The America West Arena was renamed the US Airways Center in January 2006, following the merger of the two companies. America West was paying \$26 M over 30 years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2019.

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

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

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Sovereign Bank has a \$3 M naming rights deal.

Team: South Carolina Stingrays

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

Principal Owner: Jerry Zucker, Edwin Pearlstine, and the Greenwald Family

[Team Website](#)

Arena: North Charleston Coliseum

Date Built: 1993

Facility Cost (millions): \$20

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The team was able to consistently bring in over 10,000 fans a game in the beginning of the season, and the team even reached a three-million all-time attendance mark. Because of poor performances, the attendance steadily declined throughout the season, but still wavered around 7,000.

Team: Stockton Thunder

Affiliates: San Antonio Rampage (AHL), Phoenix Coyotes (NHL)

Principal Owner: Stockton Hockey Franchise Group, Inc

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Stockton Arena

Date Built: 2005

Facility Cost (millions): \$64

Facility Financing: Publicly financed by the City of Stockton.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: To lure the Thunder into playing at the Stockton Arena, city officials agreed to give 30 percent of catering revenue from games to the team. This created a problem, though, since the city earns only 20 percent in catering revenue. This caused the city a total loss of \$32,583 last year.

Team: Texas Wildcatters

Affiliates: Houston Aeros (AHL), Minnesota Wild (NHL)

Principal Owner: RBC Sports

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Ford Arena

Date Built: 2003

Facility Cost (millions): \$72

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

\$7.5 M was paid for by a refunding bond issue.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: 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: In July 2007, the Toledo Sports Arena was demolished to make way for the city's new \$85 million multi-purpose arena. The property the new arena will be built on is part of the Marina District, a proposed shopping, residential, and boating project on the Maumee River's east bank.

Team: Trenton Devils

Affiliates: New Jersey Devils (NHL), Lowell Devils (AHL)

Principal Owner: New Jersey Devils

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Sovereign Bank Arena

Date Built: 1999

Facility Cost (millions): \$53

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: In May 2007, the New Jersey Devils renamed its ECHL affiliate from the Trenton Titans to the Trenton Devils. The Devils' CEO/President/General Manager Lou Lamoriello stated that the franchise wants to create camaraderie and consistency between the teams by sharing the same nickname and logo.

NAMING RIGHTS: 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.; headed by David Elmore and Donna Tuttle

[Team Website](#)

Arena: The E-Center (West Valley Event Center)

Date Built: 1997

Facility Cost (millions): \$58

Facility Financing: \$7 M from the Salt Lake City Olympic Committee and \$46 M from the City of West Valley secured with bonds.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: West Valley City has been unsuccessful in securing a naming rights deal for the E-Center since it was built in 1997.

Team: Victoria Salmon Kings

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

Principal Owner: RG Properties

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre

Date Built: 2005

Facility Cost (millions): \$30

Facility Financing: The city borrowed \$30 M to finance the arena.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Shaw Cable TV is moving its production studios into Save-on-Foods Memorial Centre, giving the Salmon Kings greater potential exposure in the community. The Shaw studios will make its 2,000 square foot home on the south end of the arena.

NAMING RIGHTS: 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 Cost (millions): A \$3.2 M renovation was completed in 2005.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: 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: Columbus Cottonmouths

Principal Owner: Shelby and Wanda Amos

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Columbus Civic Center

Date Built: 1996

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Heavy construction will begin around the Columbus Civic Center in the city's flood abatement project. With the increasing amount of storms around the area, the city will spend a total of \$39.47 million on the project, which includes improving drainage, widening 6th Avenue, and building a permanent ramp on the far west side of the Civic Center to allow pedestrian access.

Team: Fayetteville FireAntz

Principle Owner: Howard Bullard and Kevin MacNaught

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Crown Coliseum

Date Built: 1997

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Huntsville Havoc

Principal Owner: Huntsville Sports Ventures, LLC

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Von Braun Center

Date Built: 1975

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: The facility is named in honor of Wernher von Braun, a former German rocket scientist, who after World War II, laid the foundation for the United States space program, which was thought by the locals to put Huntsville on the map.

Team: Jacksonville Barracudas

Principal Owner: Barracudas Hockey Club Inc., headed by Stephen Croskrey

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Jacksonville Ice

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Barracudas' three-year lease with the Veterans Memorial Arena ended in April, and the Barracudas feared they would have to sit out the 2007-2008 season, but the Barracudas will move from the larger Veterans Memorial Arena to the much smaller Jacksonville Ice for the 2007-2008 season.

Team: Knoxville Ice Bears

Principal Owner: A local ownership group headed by John Langley and Rita Harris

[Team Website](#)

Arena: James White Civic Coliseum

Date Built: 1961

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Richmond Renegades

Affiliate: Wheeling Nailers (ECHL)

Principal Owner: Richmond Renegades, LLC; headed by Allan Harvie

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Richmond Coliseum

Date Built: 1971

Facility Cost (millions): \$24 M, with a \$2.8 M expansion in 1993

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Richmond Renegades is an expansion team for the 2006-07 season. The team is named after the ECHL team, owned by Allan Harvie, that folded in 2003. The Renegades are the first and right now only team to form an affiliation in the SPHL.

Team: Twin City Cyclones

Principal Owner: Bob Kerzner

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum Complex (Cyclones play in the Joel Coliseum Annex)

Date Built: 1987

Facility Cost (millions): \$14.1

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Originally the Pee Dee Cyclones, the team moved from Florence, S.C. and to Winston-Salem, N.C. for the 2007-2008 season. The team was unable to reach a new lease agreement with the Florence City Civic Center, which prompted their move.

International Hockey League (IHL) (AA)

Team: Bloomington Prairie Thunder

Principal Owner: Tony Lisman

[Team Website](#)

Arena: US Cellular Coliseum

Date Built: 2006

Facility Cost (millions): \$37

Facility Financing: Funded by the City of Bloomington

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2007, the UHL announced that it would now be known as the International Hockey League (IHL), consisting of six teams. Bloomington Prairie Thunder was named as one of them.

In addition, the city lost \$2.5 million in its first year of operating the U.S. Cellular Coliseum. The mayor raised taxes but also said that revenue gains need to be made from greater attendance records and more events.

Team: Flint Generals

Principal Owner: The Perani Group

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Perani's Arena and Event Center

Date Built: 1969

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Perani Group bought the Generals in June 2007 from Khaled M. Shukairy. The Generals also played in the UHL in the 2006-2007 season before joining the IHL.

Team: Fort Wayne Komets

Principal Owner: Franke family
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
Date Built: 1952
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2007, the UHL announced that it would now be known as the International Hockey League (IHL), consisting of six teams. The Fort Wayne Komets were named as one of them.

Moreover, Fort Wayne has one of the largest minor league hockey attendances, drawing over 7,700 fans each game. This is compared to most teams that draw between 2,000-4,000.

NAMING RIGHTS: The arena has no naming rights deal and is not looking for one in the future.

Team: Kalamazoo Wings

Principal Owner: Greenleaf Holdings LLC
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Wings Stadium
Date Built: 1974
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2007, the UHL announced that it would now be known as the International Hockey League (IHL), consisting of six teams. The Kalamazoo Wings were named as one of them. Greenleaf Holdings LLC bought the Kalamazoo Wings and Wings Stadium from the now late R. T. Parfet before the 2006-2007 season.

Team: Muskegon Fury

Principal Owner: Tony Lisman
[Team Website](#)

Arena: L.C. Walker Arena
Date Built: 1960

Facility Cost (millions): \$2

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

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2007, the UHL announced that it would now be known as the International Hockey League (IHL), consisting of six teams. The Muskegon Fury was named as one of them.

The L.C. Walker family gave the city permission to sell naming rights to the arena in 2005. Since then, the arena has tried to attract local corporate sponsors, but has been unsuccessful since it does not support a major professional sports team and it is not a new facility.

Team: Port Huron Icehawks

Front Office: Larry W. Kinney

[Team Website](#)

Arena: McMorran Arena

Date Built: 1962

Facility Cost (millions): \$3.5

Facility Financing: The McMorran Foundation donated the original \$1.2 M to build the sports and entertainment center. Over time, the McMorran and Murphy families, who made up the foundation, donated the remainder of the cost.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2007, the UHL announced that it would now be known as the International Hockey League (IHL), consisting of six teams. The Port Huron Icehawks were named as one of them.

Originally the Port Huron Flags, the team changed its ownership, its league, and its name in 2007. The owners are still negotiating a deal with McMorran Arena, but they are confident they will reach one, which would include a cut of the concession and parking money for the team.

© Copyright 2007, National Sports Law Institute of Marquette University Law School {last update August 1, 2007}