

# Sports Facility Reports



*Sports Facility Reports, Volume 10, Appendix 1*

## Other Basketball Leagues

### **American Basketball Association (ABA)**

**Team:** Atlanta Vision

**Principal Owner:** Quentin and Akilah Townsend, Carter Patterson, and Brian Richey  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Exhibit Hall of the Gwinnett Center

**Team:** Bahama All-Pro Show

**Principal Owner:** Richardo Smith  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Loyola Hall

**Team:** Beijing Aoshen Olympian

**Principal Owner:** Xin Li, George Pickering (U.S. Contact)

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Don Brosco Technical Institute

**Team: Boston Blizzard**

**Principal Owner:** EMC Enterprises, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Alfreda Harris Gymnasium

**UPDATE:** This team is currently inactive.

**Team: Charlotte Crossovers**

**Principal Owner:** Michele Pierre, Jawanae Martin

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** Team will make its debut in the 2009-2010 season.

**Team: Chicago Steam**

**Principal Owner:** Louis Walker

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** South Suburban College

**UPDATE :** Team began play in 2008.

**Team: Cleveland Rockers**

**Principal Owner:** Pierre Hall

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Multiplex Arena

**UPDATE :** After a two-year hiatus, the Rockers returned to play in 2008.

**Team: College Park Spydery**

**Principal Owner:** Duane Spyder-D Hughes

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** Team will make its debut in the 2009-2010 season.

**Team: Dallas Generals**

**Principal Owner:** Keio Gamble

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** Team will make its debut in the 2009-2010 season.

**Team: Detroit Hoops**

**Principal Owner:** Gerald Watson II

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Detroit Edison Public School Academy

**UPDATE:** Team made its debut in the 2008-2009 season.

**Team: Georgia Gwizzlies**

**Principal Owner:** Embry Malone

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Macon Centerplex Coliseum

**UPDATE :** The team now plays in the Mountain States Pro Basketball League.

**Team: Honolulu Pegasus**

**Principal Owners:** AM & Associates

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE :** This team is the fourth attempt to field a professional basketball team in Hawaii. The Pegasus follow the Hawaii Hurricanes, which folded in 2009.

**Team: Houston Takers**

**Principal Owner:** Larry Donnell Leonard II

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Reagan Pavilion

**Team: Jersey Express**

**Principal Owner:** Marsha Blount and Jacqueline Halyard  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Drew University

**Team: Kentucky Bisons**

**Principle Owner:** Jay Sills  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Owensboro Sportscenter

**Team: Lake Michigan Admirals**

**Principal Owner:** Chris Glisson  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** This expansion team is set to begin play in 2009. The Admirals hope to have St. Joseph High School as their temporary home when they begin play. Glisson hopes to build the team a permanent facility in the near future.

**Team: Las Vegas Aces**

**Principle Owner:** Todd Triplett

**Arena:** Dula Memorial Community Center

**UPDATE :** This team was formerly located in Orlando, but moved in the spring of 2008 to Las Vegas. It was scheduled to play the 2008-2009 season in Las Vegas.

**Team: Los Angeles Slam**

**Principal Owner:** Donald Sanchies  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Maywood Activity Center

**Team: Maryland Marvels**

**Principal Owner:** James Agbai  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** Team will make its debut in the 2009-2010 season.

**Team: Maywood Buzz**

**Principal Owner:** Jaime Garcia  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Maywood Activity Center

**UPDATE :** This team now plays in the West Coast Basketball League.

**Team: Mississippi Miracles**

**Principal Owner:** Rev. Ronald V. Myers, Sr., M.D.  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Washington County Convention Center

**UPDATE :** This team now plays in the World Basketball Association.

**Team: Music City Stars**

**Principal Owner:** Scott Lumley

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE :** This team was formerly known as the Nashville Broncs. They played their inaugural season (2008-2009) at the Nashville Municipal Auditorium, but will be announcing a new home venue in the near future.

**Team: North Texas Fresh**

**Principal Owner:** Jay Bowdy

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** Team will make its debut in the 2009-2010 season.

**Team: Orange County Gladiators**

**Principal Owner:** David R. Clarke

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Aliso Niguel High School

**UPDATE:** The team now plays in the West Coast Pro Basketball League.

**Team: Phoenix Fury**

**Principal Owner:** Xavier X. Mitchell, Charles Key

**Arena:** Greenway Gymnasium

**Team: Sacramento Heatwave**

**Principal Owner:** Reggie Davis and Greg Chambers

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Cosumnes River College

**Team: Salt Lake City Saints**

**Principal Owner:** Kenny Wamsley

**Arena:** Salt Lake Community College

**UPDATE:** This expansion team began play in 2008.

**Team: San Diego Wildcats**

**Principal Owner:** Anthony Lacey, Matty Allison, and Charles Hoge

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Kroc Center

**UPDATE:** The Wildcats have cancelled their 2009-2010 season.

**Team: San Francisco Rumble**

**Principal Owner:** Damone Hale

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Kezar Pavilion



**Team: Savannah Prowl**

**Principal Owner:** PROWL Basketball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Civic Center

**UPDATE:** Ownership has announced that the team will be moving from Savannah to Henry County, GA, and the team's name will be changed to the Georgia Prowl for the 2009-2010 season. Arrangements are being made with a local high school athletic department for use of facilities.

**Team: Seaside Sea-Kings**

**Principal Owner:** Wash Stallworth, Jr.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** Team will make its debut in the 2009-2010 season.

**Team: Smoky Mountain Jam**

**Principal Owner:** Crossroads Sports Entertainment Group, LLC & Meadowlark Lemon

**Arena:** Maryville College

**UPDATE:** This team was formerly known as the Knoxville Thunderbolts. For the 2009-2010 season, the team will play its home games at Maryville College, while waiting for new facilities to be built.

**Team: Southeast Texas Mavericks**

**Principal Owner:** Jerry Nelson, Jr., and Jason Apodaca  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Ford Arena  
**Date Built:** 2003  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** This team was formerly known as the Rio Grande Valley Silverados and the Southeast Texas Mustangs. The team is now based in Beaumont, TX.

**Team: St. Louis Stunners**

**Principal Owner:** Stunners Basketball & Entertainment, Inc  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** St. Louis Community College

**UPDATE:** The team has decided to change its home venue, but has not yet announced the new place.

**Team: Strong Island Sound**

**Principal Owner:** Darren Cioffi and Michele Wuestman  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Suffolk County Community College

**UPDATE:** Team has suspended operations until it can find a new financial partner.

**Team: Washington Raptors**

**Principal Owner:** Lewis County Raptors, LLC  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Lucky Eagle Casino

**Team: West Texas Whirlwinds**

**Principal Owner:** Cleveland Phelps

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Carver Center

**Team: West Virginia Blazers**

**Principal Owner:** Bluefield Housing Authority

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Beckley-Raleigh County Convention Center

**UPDATE:** Team will make its debut in the 2009-2010 season. The Housing Authority created the team as part of a program to help young people in the area improve their lives.

**Team: Youngstown Swish**

**Principal Owner:** David Stambul, Dennis Paige

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Niles Wellness Center

**UPDATE:** Team will make its debut in the 2009-2010 season.

## **Continental Basketball Association (CBA)**

No official announcement has been made, but it is clear that a 2009-2010 season is unlikely given that nearly every team in the league has folded.

## National Basketball Developmental League (NBDL)

### Team: Albuquerque Thunderbirds

**Affiliate:** Dallas Mavericks, New Orleans Hornets

**Principal Owner:** Southwest Basketball, LLC; David Kahn

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Tingley Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1957, after seventeen years of construction.

**Facility Cost:** \$500,000

**Facility Financing:** Paid for with Work Project Administration money.

[Facility Website](#)

### Team: Arkansas RimRockers

**Principal Owner:** Larry Crain

**Arena:** Alltel Arena

**Date Built:** 1999

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$80

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** This team has been inactive since 2007. The team went on hiatus when attendance in Little Rock fell so low that the owner couldn't afford the arena lease. Attempts to relocate the team have so far been unsuccessful.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Alltel is paying \$7 M over fifteen years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2014.

### Team: Austin Toros

**Affiliate:** San Antonio Spurs

**Principal Owner:** David Kahn; Southwest Basketball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Austin Convention Center  
**Date Built:** 1992  
[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Bakersfield Jam**

**Affiliate:** Golden State Warriors, Los Angeles Clippers  
**Principal Owner:** Bakersfield Professional Sports, LLC  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Rabobank Arena  
**Date Built:** 1998  
[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Colorado 14ers**

**Affiliate:**  
**Principal Owner:** Timothy D. Wiens and John Frew  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Broomfield Event Center  
**Date Built:** 2006  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** This team will be inactive for the 2009-2010 as it prepares for its relocation to Frisco, TX, for the 2010-2011 season. Donnie Nelson will become the new majority owner of the team. The team's name and colors will be announced at a later date. The team will play its home games at the Dr. Pepper Arena.

**Team: Dakota Wizards**

**Affiliate:** Memphis Grizzlies, Washington Wizards  
**Principal Owner:** Steve McCormick and Bill Sorensen  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Bismarck Civic Center  
[Facility Website](#)

**Team:** Erie BayHawks

**Affiliate:** Cleveland Cavaliers, Toronto Raptors  
**Principal Owner:** Steve Demetriou  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Louis J. Tullio Arena  
**Date Built:** 1983  
**Facility Costs (millions):** \$9.3  
[Facility Website](#)

**Team:** Fort Wayne Mad Ants

**Affiliate:** Detroit Pistons, Indiana Pacers, Milwaukee Bucks  
**Principal Owner:** John D. Zeglis  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Allen County War Memorial Coliseum  
**Date Built:** 1952  
**Facility Costs (millions):** \$2.6, it was renovated for \$26 in 1989 and again for \$35 in 2002  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** It was announced in September 2008 that the Mad Ants will be affiliated with the Milwaukee Bucks. They were already affiliated with the Detroit Pistons and the Indiana Pacers.

**Team:** Idaho Stampede

**Affiliate:** Denver Nuggets, Portland Trailblazers  
**Principle Owner:** Bill Ilett  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Qwest Arena  
**Date Built:** 1997  
**Facility Costs (millions):** \$50  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June 2009, the NBA announced that the Stampede's affiliates would be the Denver Nuggets and the Portland Trailblazers.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** At the end of 2004, Bank of America chose not to renew its \$1 M 10-year naming rights deal. Qwest Communications signed a naming rights deal with Idaho Sports Properties/Block 22 in October 2005 for \$4 M over 15 years.

**Team:** Iowa Energy

**Affiliate:** Chicago Bulls, Phoenix Suns  
**Principle Owner:** Iowa Basketball, LLC  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Wells Fargo Arena  
**Date Built:** 2005  
**Facility Costs (millions):** \$99  
[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Wells Fargo Financial Services is the title sponsor for the arena.

**Team:** Los Angeles D-Fenders

**Affiliate:** Los Angeles Lakers  
**Principle Owner:** Los Angeles Lakers  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Staples Center  
**Date Built:** 1999  
**Facility Cost (millions):** \$375  
**Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed:** 19%  
**Facility Financing:** Bank of America underwrote a \$305 M loan to finance construction. The city provided \$38.5 M in bonds and \$20 M in Los Angeles Convention Center reserves. This money will eventually be repaid through arena revenues. An additional \$12 M in tax incremental



financing was also provided by the city's Community Redevelopment Agency.

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Staples, an office supply company, is paying \$100 M over 20 years for the naming rights that expire in 2019.

**Team: Maine Red Claws**

**Affiliate:** Boston Celtics, Charlotte Bobcats

**Principle Owner:** Maine Basketball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Portland Exposition Building

**Date Built:** 1914

**Facility Costs:** \$80,944

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Portland, Maine, was awarded an NBADL expansion franchise in February 2009. The team will begin play in the 2009-2010 season. The team name was announced in April.

**Team: Reno Bighorns**

**Affiliate:** Sacramento Kings, Orlando Magic

**Principle Owner:** SK Baseball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Reno Events Center

**Date Built:** 2005

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Rio Grande Valley Vipers**

**Affiliate:** Houston Rockets

**Principle Owner:** RGV Basketball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Dodge Arena

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Costs (millions):** \$23

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June, the Vipers secured a direct-affiliation partnership with the Houston Rockets. As part of this partnership, the Rockets will run the Vipers' basketball operations, while the Vipers' owners will run the day-to-day business operations. The amount paid by the Rockets to secure this partnership was not disclosed. During the summer of 2009, the team relocated its headquarters and opened a new pro-shop.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** DaimlerChrysler bought the naming rights to the arena and named it after its Dodge brand.

**Team: Sioux Falls Skyforce**

**Affiliate:** Miami Heat, Minnesota Timberwolves

**Principal Owner:** D. Greg Heineman

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Sioux Falls Arena

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Sioux Falls Arena will host The Summit League 2011 and 2012 Men's Basketball Tournaments. In April, the Timberwolves announced that they would be playing a 2009 preseason game at Sioux Falls Arena. Their opponent will be the Toronto Raptors.

**Team: Springfield Armor**

**Affiliate:** TBA

**Principal Owner:** HWS Basketball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** MassMutual Center

**Date Built:** 1972

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Armor will begin play with the 2009-2010 season. This franchise was formerly located in Anaheim. Coaching staff will be announced in late July.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** In 2005, MassMutual Financial Group signed a naming rights deal for the Springfield Civic Center.

**Team: Tulsa 66ers**

**Affiliate:** Oklahoma City Thunder

**Principal Owner:** Southwest Basketball, LLC

[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:** As of June 2008, the team is now the D-League affiliate of the Seattle Sonics, now the Oklahoma City Thunder.

**Team: Utah Flash**

**Affiliate:** Utah Jazz, Atlanta Hawks

**Principle Owner:** Brandt Anderson

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** McKay Events Center

**Date Built:** 1996

[Facility Website](#)

## **Premier Basketball League (PBL)**

**Team: Augusta Groove**

**Principal Owner:** Gary Perry, Lavon Mercer, Ricky Brown

**Arena:** Richmond Academy

**UPDATE:** For the 2008-2009 season, the team was relocated to Augusta and named the Groove.

**Team: Battle Creek Knights**

**Principal Owner:** Scott Niecko

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Kellogg Arena

**Date Built:** 1980

**Team: Buffalo Stampede**

**Principal Owner:** Vincent J. Lesh, Jr.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Koessler Athletic Center at Canisius College

**Team: Chicago Throwbacks**

**Principal Owner:** George Bellevue

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Attack Athletics

**Team: Detroit Panthers**

**Principal Owner:** Kevin A. Carter and Bart Scott

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Groves High School

**Team: Halifax Rainmen**

**Principal Owner:** Andre Levingston

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Metro Centre

**Date Built:** 1978

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Manchester Millrats**

**Principal Owner:** Jason Briggs, Steve Yankopolous, David Cooper

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** The Fieldhouse

**Team: Maryland Nighthawks**

**Principal Owner:** Tom Doyle

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Hanley Center for Athletic Excellence

**UPDATE:** Maryland was chosen as the PBL's 'travel team' during 2009 and will be playing games throughout Asia. The team will return to PBL play in January 2010.

**Team: Mid-Michigan Destroyers**

**Principal Owner:** ownership group lead by Jere Shockey

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Bay City Western High School

**UPDATE:** Disruptive philosophical differences among the owners as to operating expenses prompted the league to allow the team to suspend operations as of February 2009. There is no word on a return.

**Team: Montreal Sasquatch**

**Principal Owner:** Soar Enterprises

**Arena:** Centre Pierre-Charbonneau

**Date Built:** 1957

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In February 2009, the PBL terminated the ownership rights of Montreal's original ownership group for failing to maintain league standards. Soon after, Soar Enterprises was secured to operate the team. The team also ran into venue problems and had to play all of its final games away from home.

**Team: Quad Cities Riverhawks**

**Principal Owner:** Tom McGinn

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Wharton Field House

**Date Built:** 1928

**UPDATE:** Due to venue issues, the team sat out the 2008-2009 season. There is no word on the team's return to play.

**Team: Quebec Kebs**

**Principal Owner:** Club de basketball professionnel de Quebec Inc.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** PEPS Athletic Complex at Université Laval

**UPDATE:** This team used to be known as the Quebec Kebekwa.

**Team: Reading Railers**

**Principal Owner:** Jim Stec, Kay Magee

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Sovereign Center

**Date Built:** 2001

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In October 2008, the league and team announced that the team would sit out the 2009-2010 season, with the hopes of returning in 2010. The team needed to work out some financial troubles and scheduling problems with its home arena. So far, there has been no word of a return.

**Team: Rochester RazorSharks**

**Principal Owner:** Dr. Sev Hrywnak

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Blue Cross Arena

**Date Built:** 1951-1955

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$7.5 (construction), \$41 (renovation)

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Vermont Frost Heaves**

**Principal Owner:** Alexander Wolff

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Barre Auditorium and Burlington Memorial Auditorium

**Date Built:** 1939 (BA), 1927 (BMA)

**Team: Wilmington Sea Dawgs**

**Principal Owner:** Peter Gratale, Mark Janas

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Joe and Barbara Schwartz Center



## **United States Basketball League (USBL)**

The USBL will not have a 2009 season. The focus is on 2010 and expansion franchises are being secured.

## Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA)

**Team: Atlanta Dream**

**Affiliate:** Atlanta Hawks

**Principal Owner:** J. Ronald Terwilliger

**Year Established:** 2008

[Team Website](#)

**Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil):** n/a

**Arena:** Philips Arena

**Date Built:** 1999

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$213.5

**Facility Financing:** \$130.75 million in revenue bonds to be paid from arena revenues; \$20 million from Turner Broadcasting; and \$62.5 million from 3% car rental tax.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In May 2009, the team announced Suwanee Sports Academy as its official training facility.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Phillips paid \$168 million for 20 years.

**Team: Chicago Sky**

**Principal Owner:** Michael Alter

**Year Established:** 2006

[Team Website](#)

**Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil):** \$10 M

**Arena:** UIC Pavilion

**Date Built:** 1982

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

[Facility Website](#)

**Team: Connecticut Sun**

**Principal Owner:** Mohegan Indian Tribe  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Mohegan Sun Arena  
**Date Built:** 2001  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Construction work at Mohegan Sun has caused parking difficulties for Sun games. In response, the casino is holding a special raffle for fans who park in a remote lot and ride a shuttle in.

**Team: Detroit Shock**

**Affiliate:** Detroit Pistons  
**Principal Owner:** William Davidson  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** The Palace of Auburn Hills  
**Date Built:** 1988  
**Facility Cost (millions):** \$70  
**Facility Financing:** Privately financed by a bank loan and equity contribution by team ownership.  
[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** In 1998, the owners of The Palace hired a marketing company to negotiate the rights to rename the arena, but no deal ever developed. Currently, there are no plans to sell the naming rights to the Palace.

**Team: Houston Comets**

**Principal Owner:** n/a  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Reliant Arena  
**Date Built:** 1974  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Comets suspended operations for the 2009-2010 season as ownership is in flux. The WNBA is in contact with investors interested in purchasing the team, but didn't want any

rush to the sale before the season began. Many investors are interested in keeping the team in Houston.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Reliant Arena is part of a collection of venues collectively called Reliant Park. Reliant Energy has a 32 year, \$300 million naming rights agreement with the entire complex; the deal expires in 2032.

**Team: Indiana Fever**

**Affiliate:** Indiana Pacers

**Principal Owner:** Melvin and Herbert Simon

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Conseco Fieldhouse

**Date Built:** 1999

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$183

**Facility Financing:** Financing for the facility is a public/private partnership. Public contributions totaled \$79 M, which included \$50 M from a professional sports developmental tax district around the new facility, \$4.7 M in infrastructure, \$9.3 M from Capital Improvement Board cash reserves and \$7 M from the Circle Centre Mall revenues. The Pacers contributed \$57 M and other private sources paid for the rest.

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Conseco, an insurance and financial services company, is paying \$40 M over 20 years for the naming rights, which expire in 2019.

**Team: Los Angeles Sparks**

**Affiliate:** Los Angeles Lakers

**Principal Owner:** Carla Christofferson and Kathy Goodman

[Team Website](#)

**Most Recent Purchase Price:** \$10 M (2007)

**Arena:** Staples Center

**Date Built:** 1999

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$375

**Facility Financing:** Bank of America underwrote a \$305 M loan to finance construction. The city provided \$38.5 M in bonds and \$20 M in Los Angeles Convention Center reserves. This money will eventually be repaid through arena revenues. An additional \$12 M in tax incremental

financing was also provided by the city's Community Redevelopment Agency.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June 2009, the Sparks announced a multi-year partnership with Farmers Insurance Group. The partnership includes player jersey rights, on-court apparel, in-arena signage, media, and related community activities. Financial details were not disclosed.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Staples, an office supply company, is paying \$100 M over 20 years for the naming rights that expire in 2019.

**Team: Minnesota Lynx**

**Affiliate:** Minnesota Timberwolves

**Principal Owner:** Glen Taylor

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Target Center

**Date Built:** 1990

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$104

**Facility Financing:** Financed through a tax exempt bond issue.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The team has signed an on-court advertising deal with Treasure Island Resort & Casino for the 2009 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Target was paying \$18.8 M over 15 years for the naming rights that expired in 2005. The agreement appears to have been extended because the venue has retained the Target name.

**Team: New York Liberty**

**Affiliate:** New York Knicks

**Principal Owner:** Cablevision

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Madison Square Garden

**Date Built:** 1968

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$43

**Facility Financing:** \$200 M in renovations completed in 1991.

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Madison Square Garden's history is probably the most significant reason the owners have stated that they will never sell the naming rights to the arena. The history began when Madison Square Garden I opened in 1879. The current Madison Square Garden, Madison Square Garden IV, opened in 1968.

**Team: Phoenix Mercury**

**Affiliate:** Phoenix Suns

**Principal Owner:** Robert Sarver

[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 going to construct the arena and \$7 M for the land. The 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:** On June 1, the Mercury announced a branded-jersey partnership with LifeLock. As part of a wider deal with the WNBA, LifeLock will be offering free one-year memberships to all WNBA season ticket holders. The jersey deal will run through 2011.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** US Airways is paying \$26 M over 30 years for the naming rights that expire in 2019. In January 2006, the name of the arena was changed from America West Arena to the US Airways Center after America West and US Airways merged in 2005.

**Team: Sacramento Monarchs**

**Affiliate:** Sacramento Kings

**Principal Owner:** Maloof Sports & Entertainment, owned by Gavin and Joseph Maloof

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** ARCO Arena

**Date Built:** 1988

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$40

**Facility Financing:** Privately financed.

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** ARCO is paying \$750,000 per year for ten years for the naming rights that expire in 2007. The naming rights deal was originally signed in 1985 as a 99-year deal for only \$7.5 M. In 1997, the deal was renegotiated. Since then ARCO was bought by British Petroleum, but the company is going to keep the ARCO name because of its recognition on the West Coast.

**Team: San Antonio Silver Stars**

**Affiliate:** San Antonio Spurs

**Principal Owner:** Peter Holt

[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. SS&E 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 AT&T Center will play host to ESPNU's Road to the Championship in November. The doubleheader will feature women's basketball powerhouses Tennessee, Texas Tech, Connecticut, and Texas. The arena will also be holding the NCAA's Women's Final Four.

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

**Team: Seattle Storm**

**Principal Owner:** Force 10 Hoops, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Key Arena

**Date Built:** 1995

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$94

**Facility Financing:** The arena cost the city \$75 M and the Supersonics \$19 M.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In February, the Seattle City Council approved a 10-year lease between the team and Key Arena. This lease calls for rent of \$5,000/game instead of the \$15,000/game called for under the previous lease. The Storm have moved their headquarters from the Furtado Center to the Interbay neighborhood of Seattle. The team is looking for a new practice facility.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Key Bank was originally paying \$15.1 M over 15 years for naming rights that expire in 2010. After the resident NBA team was relocated, Key Bank and the city renegotiated the last two years of the deal. The bank will now pay \$300,000 in 2009 and \$315,000 in 2010.

**Team: Washington Mystics**

**Affiliate:** Washington Wizards

**Principal Owner:** Sheila Johnson and Ted Leonsis, owners of Holdings, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Most Recent Purchase Price:** \$10 M

**Arena:** Verizon Center

**Date Built:** 1997

**Facility Cost (millions):** \$260

**Facility Financing:** Private loans financed the building. The District of Columbia provided \$60 M in infrastructure costs.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In an attempt to improve team performance, the team's president and managing partner and COO have been restructuring both the front office and roster.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Verizon is paying \$44 M over 15 years for the naming rights that expire in 2017. The name of the arena changed from the MCI Center to the Verizon Center in March 2006. The change was the result of Verizon's merger with MCI.