



## OTHER HOCKEY LEAGUES

{Appendix 4.1, to [Sports Facility Reports, Volume 13](#)}

*Research completed as of July 10, 2012*

### AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE (AHL) (AAA)

**League Update:** The AHL had one team change in 2011: The Manitoba Moose moved from Winnipeg, Manitoba, where the team played for ten seasons in the AHL, to St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, where it became the St. John's IceCaps. The move occurred when True North Sports & Entertainment Limited purchased the Atlanta Thrashers and moved the team to Winnipeg in June 2011, renaming the team the Winnipeg Jets.

#### **Team: Abbotsford Heat**

**Affiliate:** Calgary Flames

**Principal Owner:** Calgary Flames

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Abbotsford Entertainment & Sports Centre

**Date Built:** 2009

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 64.7 Canadian

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Heat announced "HEAT HUB" in October 2011. Heat Hub is a multi-media blog on the team's website allowing fans to get closer to the team and players with updates through stories, pictures, and other video and audio content. The blog will also have contests, giveaways, and an area for the fans to leave comments. The Heat's Play-by-Play Broadcaster will be the main blogger for the site, but others will also contribute.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There are currently no naming rights deals for the Abbotsford Entertainment & Sports Centre. An agreement may happen in the future as the team has been losing money and would benefit from the extra money.

## **Team: Adirondack Phantoms**

**Affiliate:** Philadelphia Flyers  
**Principal Owner:** Brooks Group  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Glens Falls Civic Center  
**Date Built:** 1979  
**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 7  
**Facility Financing:** N/A  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The City of Allentown, Pennsylvania is moving forward with plans for a new arena scheduled to be completed by 2013. The construction will cost more than \$185 million to complete, and is at a standstill pending financing issues. There has been talk about the Phantoms moving to the new Allentown Arena, but there has been no official announcement as of July 2012.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There is currently no naming rights deal for the Glens Falls Civic Center.

## **Team: Albany Devils**

**Affiliate:** New Jersey Devils  
**Principal Owner:** New Jersey Devils  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Times Union Center  
**Date Built:** 1990  
**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 68  
**Facility Financing:** N/A  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Times Union Center held about 8 fewer concerts in 2011 than 2010, which lost the arena about \$400,000-\$450,000. There are several concerts already scheduled for 2012.

The Times Union Center launched a new website in fall 2011, providing more interactive features and dynamic “buy buttons” linking to other websites to buy event tickets.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** In January 2007, the county signed a \$3.5 million, 10-year naming-rights contract with the Times Union that expires 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

**Principal Owner:** Thomas Mitchell

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Broome County Veterans Memorial Arena

**Date Built:** 1973

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 7.5

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There are no current naming rights deals for the Veterans Memorial Arena.

## **Team: Bridgeport Sound Tigers**

**Affiliate:** New York Islanders

**Principal Owner:** Charles Wang

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Webster Bank Arena

**Date Built:** 2001

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 35

**Facility Financing:** 100% publicly funded.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In 2011, the Sound Tigers took over day-to-day management of the arena. Centerplate had been running the arena since its opening in 2001 and will continue to provide the hospitality services. The arena was remodeled slightly for the 2011-12 season. There are now yellow walls, tile floors on the concourse, new TVs in the concourses and in the suites, and newly painted “trip lines.” There are also plans for a year-round restaurant, a lounge area on the fourth floor sponsored by Fairfield University, a wine and cheese bar, HD video throughout the arena, and possible plans for a ground-floor private club and 55-by-45-foot billboard to make people aware of the upcoming changes.

During the 2011-12 season, the Sound Tigers’ attendance increased 17.7% from the prior year. This was the fourth highest increase among the AHL’s 30 teams.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** In January 2011, Webster Bank agreed to purchase the naming rights to the arena for \$3.5 million over 10 years, making the deal expire in 2021.

## **Team: Charlotte Checkers**

**Affiliate:** Carolina Hurricanes

**Principal Owner:** Michael Kahn

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Time Warner Cable Arena

**Date Built:** 2005

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 260

**Facility Financing:** 100% publicly funded.

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The Charlotte Bobcats (NBA) exchanged the naming rights to the arena for the termination of a contract that prohibited satellite TV companies from showing Bobcats games. No information was released detailing if Time Warner had plans to pay for the naming rights at some point in the future.

## **Team: Chicago Wolves**

**Affiliate:** Vancouver Canucks

**Principal Owner:** Don Levin, William Buddy Meyers, and Seth Gold

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Allstate Arena

**Date Built:** 1980 (renovated in 1999)

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 11

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June 2011, the Chicago Wolves agreed to a two-year affiliation agreement with the Vancouver Canucks.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Allstate Insurance Company agreed to a ten-year extension of its naming rights agreement in 2010. The deal lasts until 2020 and is worth \$11 million.

## **Team: Connecticut Whale (formerly Hartford Wolf Pack)**

**Affiliate:** New York Rangers

**Principal Owner:** Madison Square Garden L.P.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** XL Center

**Date Built:** 1975 (heavily renovated in 1980 after the original roof collapsed)

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 30

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In November 2011, Whalers Sports & Entertainment, along with CEO Howard Baldwin, released plans to revitalize Hartford by making the XL Center NHL-ready and a promise to pursue an NHL franchise. The New England Sports & Entertainment (NESE) plans to redo the XL Center's mechanical systems, concessions, and arena and luxury-level seating.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** While terms of the deal were not released, XL Capital Insurance purchased the naming rights to the Coliseum in December 2007 and has re-named it the XL Center. The six-year deal is expected to reach upwards of seven figures, allowing XL to place its logo on the front of the building, as well as the playing surface. The naming-rights agreement expires in 2013.

## **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 (\$/Mil):** 75

**Facility Financing:** The DeVos family contributed \$15 million and the Van Andel family contributed \$11.5 million. Other private interests paid \$8.5 million and state taxes funded the remainder.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Van Andel Arena had its worst year ever during 2011 and is working on a study to decide how it can be improved. Concerts are 45-50% of the arena's revenue, but they were down 17% last year.

**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 million toward the arena.

## **Team: Hamilton Bulldogs**

**Affiliate:** Montreal Canadiens

**Principal Owner:** Michael Andlauer

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Copps Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1985

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 33.5 (Canadian)

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

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Bulldogs' lease with Copps Coliseum ends after the 2013 season. The Hamilton Entertainment and Convention Facility Inc. (HECFI) is preparing a lease extension to keep the Bulldogs playing at the Coops Coliseum for another four years, which will prevent the team from relocating to another arena. Over the years, media reports have suggested that the Bulldogs may relocate to Laval, Quebec after the 2013 season, but Bulldogs Owner Michael Andlauer denied those reports as the team is committed to staying in Hamilton.

**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: Hershey Bears**

**Affiliate:** Washington Capitals

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

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** GIANT Center

**Date Built:** 2002

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 64 specifically for the arena; 95 for the arena, roads, parking lots, and infrastructure

**Facility Financing:** The state contributed \$25 million towards building the arena.

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** GIANT Food, a grocery store chain, is paying \$5 million over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2012. In May 2011, GIANT signed a 10-year contract to renew the naming rights of the GIANT Center.

## **Team: Houston Aeros**

**Affiliate:** Minnesota Wild

**Principal Owner:** Minnesota Sports & Entertainment, led by Craig Leipold

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Toyota Center

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 235

**Facility Financing:** The city spent \$20 million on the land for the arena. The sports authority sold \$182 million in bonds to build the arena and secured \$125 million from hotel and car rental taxes. The garage project is paid for by a private business. The Houston Rockets (NBA) is responsible for cost overruns and have pledged to spend \$20 million on enhancements.

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** In July 2003, the Rockets signed a 20-year, \$100 million deal with Gulf States Toyota Inc., which expires 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. 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. Although the naming rights deal is for 20 years, it can be extended to match the Rockets' arena lease term of 30 years.

## **Team: Lake Erie Monsters**

**Affiliate:** Colorado Avalanche

**Principal Owner:** Dan Gilbert

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Quicken Loans Arena

**Date Built:** 1994

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 100

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Quicken Loans Arena partnered with Aramark and became the first sports and entertainment facility to introduce SmartTouch technology into its luxury suites. The technology uses an iPad to allow suite guests to order food and drinks and buy merchandise and tickets to other events from inside the suite. The SmartTouch technology also allows the suite guests to view scores and stats in real time for a better fan experience at the games.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Naming rights for the Quicken Loans Arena was part of Dan Gilbert's \$375 million purchase of the Cleveland Cavaliers (NBA) and its properties in 2005.

## **Team: Manchester Monarchs**

**Affiliate:** Los Angeles Kings

**Principal Owner:** Anschutz Entertainment Group (AEG)

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Verizon Wireless Arena

**Date Built:** 2001

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 67

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

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

## **Team: Milwaukee Admirals**

**Affiliate:** Nashville Predators

**Principal Owner:** Milwaukee Admirals, LLC, headed by Harris Turer

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** BMO Harris Bradley Center

**Date Built:** 1988

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 90

**Facility Financing:** The Pettit family donated the money as a gift to the people of Wisconsin, and in memory of Jane Bradley Pettit's father, Harry Lynde Bradley.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Bradley Center officials say the arena needs \$23 million in renovations, but are not sure where that money will come from since the Wisconsin Governor rejected a proposal to provide \$10 million for Bradley Center renovations. Officials have also discussed building a new facility in Milwaukee, but that could cost the public \$300 million. Milwaukee Bucks (NBA) owner Herb Kohl said it is time for a new arena to replace the Bradley Center, and even offered a personal financial commitment to support a new arena.

The Admirals' attendance increased by 7.4% during the 2011-12 season, which placed it tenth among teams in the AHL.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** BMO Harris Bank bought the naming rights for the Bradley Center in May 2012, and it is now the BMO Harris Bradley Center.



## **Team: Norfolk Admirals**

**Affiliate:** Tampa Bay Lightning

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

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Norfolk Scope Arena

**Date Built:** 1971

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 28.1 (23 federally funded)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Norfolk Admirals set a new professional hockey record for having the longest winning streak with 28 games during the 2011-12 season. The team won its first Calder Cup Championship in June 2012 after beating the Toronto Marlies.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There are currently no naming rights agreements for the arena. The arena gets its name from a shortened form of the word kaleidoscope to reflect the wide variety of events that take place at the arena.

## **Team: Oklahoma City Barons**

**Affiliate:** Edmonton Oilers

**Principal Owner:** Prodigal Hockey, LLC; led by President Bob Funk, Jr.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Cox Convention Center

**Date Built:** 1972

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 71 (renovation in 2005)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Cox Communications agreed to a naming rights agreement with the city. The terms of this agreement were not disclosed.

## **Team: Peoria Rivermen**

**Affiliate:** St. Louis Blues

**Principal Owner:** Sports Capital Partners Worldwide

[Team Website](#)

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

**Date Built:** 1982

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 64

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Peoria Civic Center Authority renewed its agreement with SMG to continue operating the arena until August 2014.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There are no naming rights agreements in place for the arena.

## **Team: Portland Pirates**

**Affiliate:** Phoenix Coyotes

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

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Cumberland County Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1977

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 5

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June 2011, the Phoenix Coyotes announced that it entered into a five-year player development agreement with the Portland Pirates.

A Portland city committee recommended that the County Commissioners ask voters to approve \$30-\$33 million for renovations to the Civic Center. The issue was placed on the November 2011 ballot, and approved by the county voters. Cianbro is the Construction Management Company heading the renovation project, and renovations are expected to start soon.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There are no naming rights agreements in place for the Civic Center.

## **Team: Providence Bruins**

**Affiliate:** Boston Bruins

**Principal Owner:** H. Larue Renfroe

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Dunkin' Donuts Center

**Date Built:** 1972, renovated in 2008

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 13

**Facility Financing:** Publicly funded

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Dunkin' Donuts originally paid \$8.65 million over ten years for a naming rights deal that expired in May 2011. In June 2011, Dunkin' Donuts and the Convention Center Authority reached a deal to extend the deal for 10 years through 2021 for \$4.25 million.

## **Team: Rochester Americans**

**Affiliate:** Buffalo Sabres

**Principal Owner:** Terry Pegula

[Team Website](#)

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

**Date Built:** 1955, renovated in 1998

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 7.5 (41 renovation and expansion)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Rochester Americans' attendance increased 44.5% during the 2011-12 season, making it the highest increase from the prior season among AHL teams.

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

## **Team: Rockford IceHogs**

**Affiliate:** Chicago Blackhawks

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

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** BMO Harris Bank Center

**Date Built:** 1979, renovated in 2005

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 3.8 renovations completed in 2005

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In August 2011, BMO Harris Bank announced that it entered into an agreement for the naming rights of the Rockford MetroCentre.

In January 2012, renovations began at the arena to remove two 30-year-old chillers and install 400-ton systems to improve energy efficiency. The annual electricity savings, which are expected to be \$143,000, is paying for these upgrades.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The Rockford MetroCentre became the BMO Harris Bank Center in 2011 pursuant to a naming-rights agreement. BMO Harris is paying \$1.3 million over 5 years for the naming rights, which expire in 2016.

## **Team: San Antonio Rampage**

**Affiliate:** Florida Panthers

**Principal Owner:** Spurs Sports and Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** AT&T Center

**Date Built:** 2002

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 175

**Facility Financing:** \$146.5 million was generated through a county tax increase and an increase in hotel and rental car taxes. The San Antonio Spurs (NBA) contributed \$28.5 million 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 Rampage returned to being an affiliate of the Florida Panthers for the 2011-12 season. The team was associated with the Panthers from 2002-05 until becoming an affiliate of the Phoenix Coyotes.

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

## **Team: Springfield Falcons**

**Affiliate:** Columbus Blue Jackets

**Principal Owner:** Falcons Hockey Entertainment, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** MassMutual Center

**Date Built:** 1972, renovated in 2005

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 10.3 (71 for 2005 renovation)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Columbus Blue Jackets chose to renew its affiliation with the Springfield Falcons for the next two seasons, which will last through the 2013-14 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company is paying \$5 million for a 15-year naming rights deal that began in 2005.

## **Team: St. John's IceCaps (formerly the Manitoba Moose)**

**Affiliate:** Winnipeg Jets

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

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Mile One Centre

**Date Built:** 2001

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 20.5 Canadian; 24.3 US

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In 2011, the Manitoba Moose moved from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, where the team played for ten years in the AHL, to St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada when True North Sports & Entertainment purchased the Atlanta Thrashers and moved the team to Winnipeg. Upon the move to St. John's, the team name changed to the St. John's IceCaps.

The IceCaps sold out the Mile One Centre for all of its home games during 2011-12, the team's inaugural season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The naming rights were sold and transferred before the arena opened. Danny Williams, the former owner of Cable Atlantic, owns the naming rights and decided to name the arena based on its location at the beginning of the Trans-Canada Highway. The Williams Family Foundation trademarked the name "Mile One."

## **Team: Syracuse Crunch**

**Affiliate:** Tampa Bay Lightning

**Principal Owner:** Howard Dolgon

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** War Memorial Arena at The Oncenter

**Date Built:** 1951

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June 2012, the Crunch announced its new multi-year affiliation with the Tampa Bay Lightning, which begins with the 2012-13 season. The Crunch was previously affiliated with the Anaheim Ducks.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There is currently no naming-rights agreement for the War Memorial Arena at The Oncenter.

## **Team: Texas Stars**

**Affiliate:** Dallas Stars

**Principal Owner:** Hicks Holdings, LLC; led by Thomas O. Hicks Jr., Mack H. Hicks, and Alex Hicks

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Cedar Park Center

**Date Built:** 2009

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 55

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Cedar Park Center is named for Cedar Park, Texas where the arena is located. There are no naming rights agreements in place.

## **Team: Toronto Marlies**

**Affiliate:** Toronto Maple Leafs

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

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Ricoh Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1921, renovated in 2003

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 1.5 (38 for 2003 renovation)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June 2012, the Marlies lost the Calder Cup Championship to the Norfolk Admirals in four games. The Admirals won the first game of the series on a fluke goal that the AHL later called a “mistake.”

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Ricoh Canada Inc. is paying \$4.8 million 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:** Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza

**Date Built:** 1999

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 44

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Mohegan Sun agreed to pay \$2.38 million over ten years for naming rights to the arena. The agreement expires in 2020.

## **Team: Worcester Sharks**

**Affiliate:** San Jose Sharks

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

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** DCU Center

**Date Built:** 1982

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 25.6

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The DCU Center is undergoing \$20 million in renovations and expansions during the next year. Major improvements to the heating, ventilation, and cooling systems; upgrades to the restrooms and concessions; a new dehumidification system; and a new glass wall are all scheduled to take place.

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

## CENTRAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (CHL) (AA)

**League Update:** In 2010, the CHL and International Hockey League (IHL) announced a merger. As a result, the IHL teams became part of the CHL in 2011.

In 2011-12, the Bloomington Prairie Thunder and Bossier-Shreveport Mudbugs folded; the Colorado Eagles moved to the ECHL; the Mississippi RiverKings moved to the SPHL; and the Odessa Jackalopes moved to the North American Hockey League (NAHL). For the 2012-13 season, the Laredo Bucks, Dayton Gems, and Rio Grande Valley Killer Bees ceased operations; the Evansville IceMen and Fort Wayne Komets moved to the ECHL.

Additionally, the Bloomington Blaze joined the league in 2011, and the Denver Cutthroats will begin play in the upcoming 2012-13 season.

### **Team: Allen Americans**

**Affiliate:** Dallas Stars and Colorado Avalanche (NHL), Texas Stars and Lake Erie Monsters (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Douglas H. Miller

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Allen Event Center

**Date Built:** 2009

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 70 (includes two parking garages)

**Facility Financing:** The city provided \$47 million in bonds with the remaining \$23 million coming from the MGHerring Group. The city will reimburse MGHerring with revenue from the facility.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In September 2011, the Americans announced an affiliation agreement with the Colorado Avalanche and the Lake Erie Monsters. The agreement was for one year, and is in addition to the Americans' current affiliation with the Dallas Stars and Texas Stars.

In May 2012, Mike Modano, Craig Ludwig, and Ed Belfour, all former Dallas Stars players, joined Steve Duchesne in becoming minority owners of the Americans.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena is named for the town it is located in, Allen, Texas. There are no naming rights agreements in place for the arena.



## **Team: Arizona Sundogs**

**Affiliate:** Phoenix Coyotes (NHL) and Portland Pirates (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Eric Lacroix and Shawn P. Fowler

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Tim's Toyota Center

**Date Built:** 2006

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 25

**Facility Financing:** Prescott Valley paid \$3 million 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:** A local Toyota dealership in Prescott Valley, Arizona purchased the naming rights to the Center. The parties did not disclose the terms of the deal.

## **Team: Bloomington Blaze (formerly the Bloomington Prairie Thunder)**

**Affiliate:** Danville Dashers (FHL)

**Principal Owner:** Sandra Hunnewell

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** U.S. Cellular Coliseum

**Date Built:** 2006

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 37

**Facility Financing:** Funded by the City of Bloomington.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** A new ownership group, led by Sandra Hunnewell and Gary DelBuono, bought the Prairie Thunder and renamed the team the Bloomington Blaze in May 2011. The new ownership agreed to a multi-year deal to keep the team playing at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum. In January 2012, Hunnewell bought out DelBuono's share and acquired 100% of the team's financial stake, making her the sole owner of the Blaze.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** U.S. Cellular purchased the naming rights to the Coliseum in 2005. As part of the agreement, U.S. Cellular will pay \$1.75 million over 10 years.

## **Team: Bossier-Shreveport Mudbugs**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Tommy and Leslie Scott

**Team Website:** N/A

**Arena:** N/A

**Date Built:** N/A

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

**Facility Website:** N/A

**UPDATE:** In June 2011, the team ceased operations. Although the Mudbugs won the President's Cup in the 2010-11 season, management cited severe economic conditions and the limited timeline to secure revenue for the upcoming season as the reasons for discontinuing operations. Owners Tommy and Leslie Scott saved the team from ceasing operations in 2009, but lost approximately \$1.5 million over the years.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Dayton Gems**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** GDHP, LLC; led by Rob Garfield

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** N/A

**Date Built:** N/A

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

**Facility Website:** N/A

**UPDATE:** The Gems were not able to secure additional ownership or investors, and the team ceased operations in May 2012. The Gems' home arena, the Hara Arena, will now have a team from the Federal Hockey League playing there.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Denver Cutthroats**

**Affiliate:** TBD

**Principal Owner:** John Hayes

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Denver Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1951

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 3

**Facility Financing:** City of Denver

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In April 2012, the CHL announced that an expansion franchise would play at the Denver Coliseum starting with the upcoming 2012-13 season. John A. Hayes, CEO of Ball Corporation, is heading the investment group that owns the new franchise. In May, the CHL announced the new team as the Denver Cutthroats, along with the team's colors and logo.

The Cutthroats' affiliate is still to be determined.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There is currently no naming-rights agreement for the arena, as it is named for the city that it is located in, Denver, CO.

## **Team: Laredo Bucks**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** N/A

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** N/A

**Date Built:** N/A

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

**Facility Website:** N/A

**UPDATE:** Due to declining attendance throughout the years, the Bucks' ownership decided to cease operations in May 2012. The team still maintains its license in the CHL.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Missouri Mavericks**

**Affiliate:** Chicago Wolves (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Independence Professional Hockey, LLC; headed by Matt Adams, Mark Adams, and Mike Carper

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Independence Events Center

**Date Built:** 2009

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 60

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Mavericks signed an affiliation agreement with the Chicago Wolves (AHL) in September 2011 for the 2011-12 season. As of June 2012, the teams had not extended the agreement.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena is named for the town it is located in, Independence, Missouri. There are no naming rights deals.

## **Team: Quad City Mallards**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Club 9 Sports; headed by CEO Jon Pritchett

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** iWireless Center

**Date Built:** 1993

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 33.4

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In May 2011, Mallards owner Eric Karls ceased Mallards operations abruptly after his first year of ownership. However, a month later in June 2011, Club 9 Sports bought the team from Karls, becoming the team's fourth owner in four years. Club 9 Sports assumed the remaining three years of the lease with the iWireless Center.

After two years of play in the CHL, the Mallards and Club 9 Sports announced in March 2012 that they entered into a license agreement with the CHL. The agreement makes the Mallards a member of the CHL for the next ten years.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** iWireless is paying \$4.25 million over ten years for the naming rights to the arena (formerly called The MARK), which expire in 2017.

## **Team: Rapid City Rush**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Scott Mueller (Minority Owners are Barry Peterson and Donnie Ward)

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Rushmore Plaza Civic Center Arena

**Date Built:** 1977 (Ice arena completed in 2008)

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 24 for the Ice Arena

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In October 2011, the United States Patent and Trademark Office issued the trademark RAPID CITY RUSH to Rapid City Rush Professional Hockey, LLC. The mark contains the team mascot donkey wearing a miner outfit, with a hat that says “Rapid City Rush” and a shirt with an “R.”

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There is no naming rights deal in place for the arena. The arena is named for its location near Mt. Rushmore.

## **Team: Rio Grande Valley Killer Bees**

**Affiliate:** Florida Panthers (NHL) and San Antonio Rampage (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Hidalgo Sports, LLC; led by Joe Sakulenzki

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** State Farm Arena

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 23

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Due to financial difficulties, poor attendance, and the difficult economics of playing in the Valley, following the 2011-12 season, the Killer Bees decided to cease operations and will not play in the CHL for the 2012-13 season. It is possible that a new franchise will keep the Killer Bees’ name. A team from the North American Hockey League (NAHL) is planned to fill the team’s spot at the State Farm Arena. The name of the team is unknown, but the NAHL team may even keep the Killer Bees name.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** State Farm agreed to purchase the naming rights to the arena in February 2010. State Farm is paying \$1 million, and the naming rights expire in 2015.

## **Team: Texas Brahmas**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Stuart Fraser

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** NYTEX Sports Centre

**Date Built:** 1999

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** NYTEX Sports, a management firm located in New York and Texas, purchased the arena in March of 2007 and renamed it NYTEX Centre in June of the same year.

## **Team: Tulsa Oilers**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Jeff Lund

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Bank of Oklahoma Center (BOK Center)

**Date Built:** 2008

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 178

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The Bank of Oklahoma purchased naming rights for \$11 million over 20 years. The naming rights expire 2027.

## **Team: Wichita Thunder**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Steven Brothers Sports Management LLC; comprised of Rodney, Brandon, and Johnny Steven

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** INTRUST Bank Arena

**Date Built:** 2010

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 205.5

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** During the summer of 2011, three brothers purchased the Wichita Thunder. Rodney, Brandon, and Johnny Steven (Steven Brothers Sports Management, LLC) are suing former owner (WIHO, LLC) and former manager (Jeffrey D. Lund) for attempting to hide financial losses from the ownership group before it purchased the team. The brothers allege that Lund did not provide the necessary financial records and WIHO hired a company to clear the computer system of the financial data. The brothers supposedly hired a company to retrieve the files and they did not match the information previously provided by Lund. Additionally, the brothers allege that the information indicated a significant financial loss during the Thunder's 2009-10 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** INTRUST Bank purchased naming rights for the incomplete arena in January 2008. It paid \$8.75 million for 25 years. Furthermore, Cessna Aircraft Company will pay \$3 million over 20 years to name an adjacent outdoor plaza.

## **EAST COAST HOCKEY LEAGUE (ECHL) (AA)**

**League Update:** The Colorado Eagles moved from the CHL to the ECHL to start the 2011-12 season. Following the 2011-12 season, the ECHL lost one team, the Chicago Express; however, the league gained three additional teams: the San Francisco Bulls, the Orlando Solar Bears, the Evansville IceMen (from the CHL), and the Fort Wayne Komets (from the ECHL).

At the 2012 ECHL Board of Governors meeting, the board decided to cap the league at 26 teams.

### **Team: Alaska Aces**

**Affiliate(s):** St. Louis Blues (NHL) and Peoria Rivermen (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Dan Coffey, Jerry Mackie, Rod Udd, Al Haynes, and Steve Adams

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Sullivan Arena

**Date Built:** 1983

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 25

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

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

### **Team: Bakersfield Condors**

**Affiliate(s):** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Jonathan Fleisig

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Rabobank Arena

**Date Built:** 1998

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 38

**Facility Financing:** Publicly financed by the City of Bakersfield.

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Rabobank acquired naming rights to the then Centennial Gardens Convention Center in 2005. The agreement is reportedly for \$2.5 million and lasts for 10 years.



## **Team: Chicago Express**

**Affiliate(s):** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Craig Drecktrah

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Sears Centre Arena

**Date Built:** 2006

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 62

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Express failed to make the playoffs in its inaugural season and had poor attendance, causing the team to fold and cease operations in April 2012. The team was affiliated with the Columbus Blue Jackets (NHL) and the Springfield Falcons (AHL) for the one year.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Sears Holding, LLC owns the naming rights to the arena, which expire in 2016. The company pays approximately \$1 million each year for the rights.

## **Team: Cincinnati Cyclones**

**Affiliate(s):** Florida Panthers and Nashville Predators (NHL); San Antonio Rampage and Milwaukee Admirals (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Nederlander Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** U.S. Bank Arena

**Date Built:** 1975

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 20

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

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

## **Team: Colorado Eagles**

**Affiliate:** Winnipeg Jets (NHL) and St. John's IceCaps (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Martin Lind and Ralph Backstrom

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Budweiser Events Center

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 60

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** After the 2010-11 season, the Eagles left the CHL and joined the ECHL.

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

## **Team: Elmira Jackals**

**Affiliate(s):** Anaheim Ducks and Ottawa Senators (NHL); Binghamton Senators and Syracuse Crunch (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Dr. Mostafa Afr

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** First Arena

**Date Built:** 2000

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 15.5

**Facility Financing:** Lauridon Sports Management, Inc. officials agreed to put \$7.25 million into the arena. State aid, a loan from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department, and revenue from the Chemung County hotel room tax will make up the remaining \$8.25 million.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In February 2012, a Chemung County judge issued a foreclosure order for the First Arena. The arena is owned by Southern Tier Economic Development and operated by Elmira Downtown Arena, LLC, which is owned by Jackals owner Mostafa Afr. The foreclosure process will take about two years.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena was called The Coach USA Center when it opened, but became First Arena when First Transit purchased Coach USA in 2003. First Transit took over the original 10-year agreement that ran through 2010. Information about a renewal was not available, and the arena name is unchanged. Terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

## **Team: Evansville IceMen**

**Affiliate:** Columbus Blue Jackets (NHL) and Springfield Falcons (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Ron Geary

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Ford Center

**Date Built:** 2011

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 127.5

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The IceMen were originally part of the International Hockey League (IHL) before it merged into the Central Hockey League; on May 17, 2012, the IceMen were accepted to join the ECHL and begin play in the 2012-13 season. Additionally in 2012, the IceMen became affiliated with the Columbus Blue Jackets of the NHL.

Construction of the Ford Center, which began in 2008, was completed in 2011, and created 30% more jobs than originally projected. Nearly 1,600 people worked on the project for just under 693,000 hours.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** In August 2011, the arena became the Ford Center when the Tri-State Ford Dealers acquired the naming rights. For the naming rights, the Tri-State Ford Dealers will pay the City of Evansville more than \$4.2 million over 10 years.

## **Team: Florida Everblades**

**Affiliate(s):** Carolina Hurricanes and Tampa Bay Lightning (NHL); Charlotte Checkers and Norfolk Admirals (AHL); Plymouth Whalers (CHL)

**Principal Owner:** Craig Brush and Peter Karmanos Jr.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Germain Arena

**Date Built:** 1998

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 25

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Everblades have made the playoffs for the past fourteen seasons and are the current ECHL Champions after winning their first Kelly Cup.

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

## **Team: Fort Wayne Komets**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Michael Franke, David Franke, and Scott Sproat

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1952

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 2.6 (26 for the 1989 renovation; 35 for the 2002 renovation)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Komets, previously a member of the International Hockey League and Central Hockey League, will begin playing in the ECHL at the start of the 2012-13 season. The Komets beat the Wichita Thunder to win the Ray Miron President's Cup in 2012, making them the Central Hockey League champion for the 2011-12 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena is named as a living memorial to the nation's war veterans.

## **Team: Greenville Road Warriors**

**Affiliate(s):** New York Rangers (NHL) and Connecticut Whale (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Chestnut Street Sports, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** BI-LO Center

**Date Built:** 1998

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 63

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Following the 2011-12 season, former owner Neil Smith sold the Warriors to the Chestnut Street Sports, LLC. Smith remains part of the Warriors as a Special Consultant to the team.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** BI-LO, a southeastern supermarket chain, purchased naming rights to the arena as it was under construction. The length and value of the agreement was not disclosed.

## **Team: Gwinnett Gladiators**

**Affiliate(s):** Phoenix Coyotes and Buffalo Sabres (NHL); Portland Pirates and Rochester Americans (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Gwinnett County Hockey, LLC, headed by Toby Jeffreys

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Arena at Gwinnett Center

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 65

**Facility Financing:** Funded by Gwinnett County

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Gladiators extended their lease with the Gwinnet Center to remain there through at least the next three seasons.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena is currently named for the county in which it resides. There are no naming rights deals in place.

## **Team: Idaho Steelheads**

**Affiliate(s):** Dallas Stars (NHL) and Texas Stars (AHL)

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

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** CenturyLink Arena Boise

**Date Built:** 1997

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 50

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** In August 2011, CenturyLink took over Qwest Communications and the venue's name changed from Quest Arena to CenturyLink Arena Boise.

## **Team: Kalamazoo Wings**

**Affiliate:** New Jersey Devils and Vancouver Canucks (NHL); Albany Devils (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** William D. Johnston

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Wings Stadium

**Date Built:** 1974

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In the fall of 2011, the Wings announced affiliations with the Vancouver Canucks and New Jersey Devils of the NHL.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena is named for the team that plays there. There are no naming rights deals in place.

## **Team: Las Vegas Wranglers**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Gary Jacobs

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Orleans Arena

**Date Built:** 2002

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 85

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Wranglers affiliation with the Phoenix Coyotes (NHL) ended as the Coyotes signed a new affiliation agreement with the Gwinnett Gladiators. The Wranglers were unaffiliated for the 2011-12 season.

The Wranglers lost to the Florida Everblades in the 2012 Kelly Cup Finals.

The Wranglers and The Orleans Hotel and Casino extended the team's lease at the Orleans Arena to keep the team playing at the arena through the 2013-14 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena is located at The Orleans Hotel and Casino, which is where it gets its name.

## **Team: Ontario Reign**

**Affiliate(s):** Los Angeles Kings (NHL) and Manchester Monarchs (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Anschutz Entertainment Group

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Citizens Business Bank Arena

**Date Built:** 2008

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 130

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June 2012, the Citizens Business Bank Arena reached a multi-year agreement with MetroPCS for MetroPCS to become the Founding Partner and the Official and Exclusive Wireless Provider for the arena.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Citizens Business Bank agreed to a 10-year, multi-million dollar naming rights agreement that will expire in 2018. The exact financial details were not disclosed.

## **Team: Orlando Solar Bears**

**Affiliate(s):** Minnesota Wild (NHL) and Houston Aeros (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Orlando Pro Hockey Operations, L.P; controlled by Joe Haleski, Jason Siegel, and Bob Ohrablo

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** The Amway Center

**Date Built:** 2008

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 480

**Facility Financing:** The City of Orlando, on behalf of the Central Florida Community, owns and operates the arena. There was a public-private partnership to help construct the arena, establishing that the Orlando Magic (NBA) pay the City of Orlando \$2.75 million every year for 30 years in exchange for exclusive marketing rights.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In November 2011, the ECHL's Board of Governors approved an expansion team in Orlando, FL. The Solar Bears are set to begin play in the ECHL during the 2012-13 season. The new Orlando Bears is an expansion team and is not connected to the former Orlando Solar Bears that played in the International Hockey League from 1995-2001. In May, the Solar Bears announced an affiliation with the NHL's Minnesota Wild.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Amway Corp. is paying the City of Orlando \$40 million for a ten-year naming rights agreement for the Amway Center, also home to NBA's Orlando Magic. Amway purchased the original naming rights in December 2006 for the Amway Arena, and had right of first refusal to have its name on the new arena.

## **Team: Reading Royals**

**Affiliate(s):** Toronto Maple Leafs and Boston Bruins (NHL); Toronto Marlies and Providence Bruins (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** SMG and Berks County Convention Center Authority (BCCCA)

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Sovereign Center

**Date Built:** 2001

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 25

**Facility Financing:** \$12.5 million came from a state grant and Burkes County contributed the other \$12.5 million, partially through a 5% hotel room tax.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In January 2010, a fan who drank alcohol before, during, and after a Royals game at the Sovereign Center crashed his car into another car, killing the driver and two passengers. Their estates brought wrongful death lawsuits against the Sovereign Center's operator, SMG, and several bars in the area in January 2012. One of the deceased's lawyers indicated that SMG served 15 to 20 beers to the man even though he appeared drunk, and the drunk driver pleaded guilty.

On July 1, 2011, the Berks County Convention Center Authority (BCCCA) purchased a half-interest in the Royals for \$500,000. SMG, who also manages the civic center, still owns the other half of the team. This new ownership will keep the Royals in Reading and will help the venues and team combine their operations.

The Sovereign Center and the Sovereign Performing Arts Center reported a combined \$197,000 loss in 2011. SMG suspects the loss is at least partly due to an oversaturated arena market as there are arenas nearby in Hershey, Wilkes-Barre, Trenton, N.J., and Philadelphia. Additionally, the Royals finished its season with a \$295,000 loss. Over the past ten years that the arena has been in operation, along with the Sovereign Performing Arts Center, it has had five years of profits and five years of losses; however, in total, the profits were greater than the losses by \$590,000.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Sovereign Bank owns the naming rights to the stadium, but the terms of the deal were not disclosed.



## **Team: San Francisco Bulls**

**Affiliate(s):** TBD

**Principal Owner:** Pat Elouise Bird Curcio, Shmuel Farhi, Peter Higley, and Jim Chapman

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Cow Palace

**Date Built:** 1941

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** Part of the funding came from 19 firms and individuals who contributed \$20,000 each to purchase the land for the facility in 1925.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In September 2011, the ECHL announced that its Board of Governors approved an expansion team to join the league. The San Francisco Bulls are schedule to begin play in the ECHL at the start of the 2012-13 season, and will play home games at the Cow Palace, which used to be home to the San Jose Sharks in the early 1990s.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There is no naming rights agreement for the arena currently.

## **Team: South Carolina Stingrays**

**Affiliate(s):** Washington Capitals (NHL) and Hershey Bears (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Anita Zucker and Edwin Pearlstine

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** North Charleston Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1993

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 20

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In August 2010, a \$22 million renovation to the coliseum began and officials believe it will add an additional 15 to 20 years onto the arena's life. In August, the city broke ground for a 7,400-square-foot Montague Terrace food court and ticket office. Construction on a second food court, the Coliseum Terrace, began in the spring 2012, and will take several months to complete. A new HD scoreboard and sound system was also installed at the coliseum.

The luxury boxes saw a \$1 million upgrade, and were completed in time for the 2011 season opener in October. The 8 suites now have private bathrooms, a small kitchen area, and flat-screen, HD TVs. The former suites were not "luxury suites," and they now compare to what would be in an NBA or NHL arena. The suite price increased by \$20,000, but they are already sold out for the next three years.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There are no naming rights agreements currently in place.

## **Team: Stockton Thunder**

**Affiliate(s):** Edmonton Oilers and San Jose Sharks (NHL); Worcester Sharks and Oklahoma City Barons (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** SC Hockey Franchise Corporation; led by Brad Rowbotham

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Stockton Arena

**Date Built:** 2005

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 64

**Facility Financing:** Publicly financed by the City of Stockton.

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena is named after the city, but officials continue to look for a naming-rights buyer.

## **Team: Toledo Walleye**

**Affiliate(s):** Detroit Red Wings (NHL), Chicago Blackhawks (NHL), Grand Rapids Griffins (AHL), and Rockford IceHogs (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Toledo Arena Sports, Inc.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Huntington Center

**Date Built:** 2009

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 105

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Huntington Bancshares, Inc. purchased the naming rights to the arena in 2010. The agreement runs until 2017 and is worth \$2.1 million. There are also three 6-year renewal options.

## **Team: Trenton Titans (formerly Trenton Devils)**

**Affiliate(s):** Philadelphia Flyers (NHL); Adirondack Phantoms (AHL); New Jersey Outlaws (FHL)

**Principal Owner:** Delaware Valley Sports Group, LLC; consisting of Jim O'Connor, Jim Cook, Tim Curran, and Richard Lisk

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Sun National Bank Center

**Date Built:** 1999

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 53

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

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Trenton Devils suspended operations in July 2011 to restructure the organization's player development system, and later turned in their league membership. On July 28, 2011, the ECHL's Board of Governors approved the Trenton Titan's admission to the league to replace the Trenton Devils, and the team began play in the 2011-12 season. The Titans continue to play at the Sun National Bank Center, where the Trenton Devils formerly played.

In March 2012, the ECHL approved Delaware Valley Sports Group, LLC's purchase of Blue Line Sport, LLC, which operated the Trenton Titans.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The Devils and Sun National Bank agreed to a naming rights deal in November 2009, but details of the agreement were not disclosed.

## **Team: Utah Grizzlies**

**Affiliate(s):** New York Islanders and Calgary Flames (NHL); Bridgeport Sound Tigers and Abbotsford Heat (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** David Elmore and Donna Tuttle

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Maverik Center

**Date Built:** 1996-97

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 58

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

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Grocery chain Maverik agreed to a naming rights deal with the Grizzlies in 2010. Details of the agreement were not released.

## **Team: Victoria Salmon Kings**

**Affiliate(s):** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Graham Lee

**Team Website:** N/A

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

**Date Built:** 2005

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 30

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

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In May 2011, the Salmon Kings withdrew from the ECHL. The Salmon Kings left the league because the team's owners recently purchased a WHL franchise with the intent of moving the new team to Victoria, leaving the Salmon Kings without a home.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Save-On-Foods is paying \$1 million over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2014.

## **Team: Wheeling Nailers**

**Affiliate(s):** Pittsburgh Penguins and Montreal Canadiens (NHL); Hamilton Bulldogs (AHL) and Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** The Hockey Club of the Ohio Valley

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** WesBanco Arena

**Date Built:** 1977

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 7 (3.2 for a renovation in 2005)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In March 2012, the ECHL approved a transfer of the Nailers' ownership from the Nailers Hockey, LLC owned by the Brooks Family (Rob and Jim Brooks) to the Hockey Club of the Ohio Valley, which is a joint venture between the Wheeling Amateur Hockey Association and the Ohio Valley Industrial and Business Development Corporation. The sale is an effort to keep the Nailers in Wheeling.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** WesBanco is paying \$2.3 million over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2014.

## SOUTHERN PROFESSIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (SPHL) (AA)

**League Update:** The Mississippi RiverKings joined the SPHL in 2011 after leaving the CHL.

### **Team: Augusta RiverHawks**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Bob and Diane Kerzner

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** James Brown Arena

**Date Built:** 1974 (exhibition hall) and 1980 (arena)

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 11

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Augusta RiverHawks began play in the SPHL in 2010 when the team replaced the Augusta Lynx who folded two years prior in 2008.

Owner Bob Kerzner hopes to sign a new agreement with the James Brown Arena to keep the team playing there longer. Initially, he signed a two-year lease with the arena in 2010. Kerzner is in negotiations with the arena and looking to sign another one or two-year deal. Kerzner's two previous SPHL teams shut down after two seasons when they failed to attract fans.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The Augusta-Richmond County Civic Center was renamed the James Brown Arena in August 2006 in honor of the musician and singer.

### **Team: Columbus Cottonmouths**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Jacob and Wanda Amos

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Columbus Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1996

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 45

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Cottonmouths defeated the Pensacola Ice Flyers to win the President's Cup and become the 2012 SPHL champions in April 2012.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There is no naming rights agreement in place for the Columbus Civic Center.

## **Team: Fayetteville FireAntz**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Howard Bullard and Kevin MacNaught

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Cumberland County Crown Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1997

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 55

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There is no naming rights agreement in place for the Crown Coliseum.

## **Team: Huntsville Havoc**

**Affiliate:** N/A

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

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Propst Arena at the Von Braun Center

**Date Built:** 1975

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 15

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** \$31 million in renovations are ongoing at the arena. The arena is now called the Propst Arena in honor of the \$5 million donation made by Huntsville businessman, Bill Propst and his wife Eloise Propst.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The facility is currently 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, putting Huntsville on the map. The arena is now named the Propst Arena, and is located at the Von Braun Center.

## **Team: Knoxville Ice Bears**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** A group of local owners, including John M. Axford, John Langley, and Mike Murray

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** The General James White Memorial Civic Auditorium and Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1961

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In September 2011, the Ice Bears' new locker rooms were completed. The "Bears' Den" was dedicated to owner John M. Axford who remains in a wheelchair after two strokes. The renovated locker room was estimated to cost \$30,000.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena is named after James White, the founder of Knoxville. There are no naming rights deals in place.

## **Team: Louisiana IceGators**

**Affiliate:** New York Islanders (NHL)

**Principal Owner:** E.C. "Chuck Anselmo, Jr. and E.C. "Chuck" Anselmo, III

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Cajundome

**Date Built:** 1985

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 60

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There are no naming rights deals in place for the Cajundome.

## **Team: Mississippi RiverKings**

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

**Principal Owner:** The Maddox Foundation

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Landers Center

**Date Built:** 2000

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 27.5

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** In December 2011, Landers Auto Group purchased the naming rights to the DeSoto Civic Center for \$1 million, and the arena became the Landers Center. The deal will last for ten years, and the Landers Auto Group will pay \$100,000 for the first five years; \$115,000 in the sixth year; and an additional \$10,000 year after that to pay a total of \$155,000 in the tenth and final year. Landers Auto Group will pay to change the signage, and will receive its name on all signage and a suite plus 25 tickets to all events held at the venue.

## **Team: Mississippi Surge**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Surge Ice, LLC; led by Tim Kerr

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Mississippi Coast Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1977; renovations in 2007

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A (68 for renovations in 2007)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena is named after its location and has no current naming rights sponsor.



## **Team: Pensacola Ice Flyers**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Tim Kerr

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Pensacola Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1985

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 20.5

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Pensacola Civic Center had a loss of \$1.9 million following the 2010-11 season; about \$200,000 of the loss is directly attributed to the Ice Flyers. County officials met to discuss whether the Ice Flyers' lease should be renegotiated to not require a government subsidy any longer due to the continual losses. The Civic Center makes money with respect to direct costs, but when the indirect costs, such as maintaining the ice, are considered, the Civic Center loses money each year.

At a town hall meeting hosted by the Ice Flyers, the team's president announced that the team's owner, Tim Kerr, had been renegotiating a lease with the county and SMG, the company that manages the Civic Center. All parties involved were interested in a long-term lease that would work for all of them.

In July 2012, news was released that the University of West Florida officials were in talks with the county about replacing the Civic Center with a new arena. The new, modern arena would hold 10,000 people and be located on the college's campus. The county commissioners are open to discussing the idea of a new arena as the Civic Center has been losing money, there has been no interest in someone else buying the Civic Center, and the commissioners are concerned about its future viability.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena is named for the town in which it is located. There are no naming rights agreements in place.

## **FEDERAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (FHL)**

**League Update:** The Federal Hockey League began operating in November 2010, with Don Kirnan as the league's commissioner, and has teams located in Ontario, Canada and the Northeast United States. The league began with six teams, and following the inaugural season, the Broome County Barons relocated and became the Cape Cod Bluefins for the 2011-12 season.

In 2011-12 the league added three teams (the Danville Dashers, New Jersey Outlaws, and the Vermont Wild), but the Rome Frenzy dissolved. The Delaware Federals replaced the Wild, bringing the league total to eight teams.

Prior to the 2012-13 season, the Brooklyn Aviators (formerly the New York Aviators), Delaware Federals, and Akwesasne Warriors dissolved and the league added the Dayton Devils. As of June 2012, the league will have six teams to start the 2012-13 season.

### **Team: 1000 Islands Privateers**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Nicole Kirnan

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Watertown Municipal Arena at the Alex Duffy Fairgrounds

**Date Built:** N/A

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Privateers used to play their home games at the Bonnie Castle Recreation Center. It was announced in June 2012 that the Watertown Municipal Arena at the Alex Duffy Fairgrounds would be home to the Privateers starting with the 2012-13 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There is currently no naming rights agreement for the arena. It is named for the city it is located in, Watertown, New York.

## **Team: Akwesasne Warriors**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Darby “Buggo” Oakes

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** A’nowara’ko:wa Arena

**Date Built:** 1995

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Akwesasne Warriors won the Commissioner’s Cup in 2011 and ceased operations prior to the 2012-13 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Brooklyn Aviators (formerly New York Aviators)**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** N/A

**Team Website:** N/A

**Arena:** Aviator Sports and Events Center

**Date Built:** Municipal airport opened in 1931, was decommissioned in 1971, and a plan was created in 2003 to reuse the hangars as a 25-acre sports complex.

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The New York Aviators were renamed the Brooklyn Aviators for the 2011-12 season. However, the Brooklyn Aviators ceased operations prior to the 2012-13 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The facility is named Aviator after the complex’s former use as an airport.

## **Team: Cape Cod Bluefins**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Cape Cod Hockey Development Foundation, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Hyannis Youth and Community Center

**Date Built:** 2008

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 25.6

**Facility Financing:** \$3.5 million grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, \$1 million grant from the US Department of Education, and \$1.34 million from private funds secured through the Hyannis Youth and Community Center Foundation's fundraising efforts. The Town of Barnstable, where the facility is located, borrowed authorization and unexpended funds for the balance of \$18,863,283.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Following the 2010-11 season, the Broome County Barons relocated to Cape Cod. On March 3, 2011 the FHL, who owned the Broome County Barons, transferred ownership rights to the Cape Cod Hockey Development Foundation, LLC. The Cape Cod Bluefins began play in the FHL in October 2011.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There is currently no naming rights agreement in place for the HYCC, but the facility does offer naming rights for the building, gymnasium, parking lots, outdoor walkway, and many other places throughout the building.

## **Team: Danbury Whalers**

**Affiliate:** Elmira Jackals (ECHL)

**Principal Owner:** Danbury Whalers, LLC; led by Herm Sorcher

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Danbury Ice Arena

**Date Built:** 1999; expansion in 2004

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Whalers began playing in the FHL in the 2010-11 season. In October 2011, the team announced an affiliation with the Elmira Jackals of the ECHL.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena is named after the city it is located in, Danbury, Connecticut.

## **Team: Danville Dashers**

**Affiliate:** Bloomington Blaze (CHL)

**Principal Owner:** Barry Soskin

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** David S. Palmer Arena

**Date Built:** 1980

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Danville Dashers joined the Federal Hockey League prior to the 2011-12 season. In April 2012, the Dashers became affiliated with the Bloomington Blaze of the CHL.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The arena is named after the former mayor of Danville, David S. Palmer, as he was instrumental in the plan for the arena.

## **Team: Dayton Devils**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Barry Soskin

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Hara Arena

**Date Built:** 1964

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Dayton Devils are new to the Federal Hockey League and will begin play in the 2012-13 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The site that the arena is located on was originally a family-owned fruit orchard. The arena's name comes from the first two letters of the founding brothers, Harold and Ralph Wampler: "HA"rold and "RA"lph.

## **Team: Delaware Federals**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Delaware Pro Hockey International

**Team Website:** N/A

**Arena:** N/A

**Date Built:**

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):**

**Facility Financing:**

**Facility Website:** N/A

**UPDATE:** The Delaware Federals replaced the Vermont Wild after the team dissolved in November 2011. The Federals did not have a home arena. The Federals ceased operations after its inaugural season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: New Jersey Outlaws**

**Affiliate:** Trenton Titans (ECHL)

**Principal Owner:** Kristin Ann Rooney, Esq.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Capital One Ice Vault Arena

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**Facility Financing:** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Outlaws began play in the FHL during the 2011-12 season. In August 2011, the Outlaws announced that they would be affiliated with the Trenton Titans of the ECHL.

The Outlaws won the 2012 Commissioners Cup and were the FHL Champions for the 2011-12 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Capital One owns the naming rights to the arena, but the terms of the deal were not disclosed.

## **Team: Rome Frenzy**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Brian J. Hall

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** John F. Kennedy Civic Arena (Kennedy Arena)

**Date Built:** 1963; renovated in 2008

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** 3.5 for the 2008 renovation

**Facility Financing:**

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Rome Frenzy team suspended its operations in February 2011, three weeks before the end of the season. The team is expected to move to a new location and start back up in the 2012-13 season, but as of June 2012, no announcement had been made.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There is no naming rights agreement for the Kennedy Arena as it is named after former President JFK.

## **Team: Vermont Wild**

**Affiliate:** N/A

**Principal Owner:** Randall Latona

**Team Website:** N/A

**Arena:** Green Mountain Arena

**Date Built:**

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):**

**Facility Financing:**

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Vermont Wild were added to the FHL for the 2011-12 season, but in November 2011, the team ceased operations after playing only ten of its fifty-three games, and winning only three of them. The Wild, originally called the Green Mountain Rock Crushers, were the only professional hockey team to be located in the State of Vermont.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There is currently no naming rights agreement for the Green Mountain Arena.