



PRESS RELEASE

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75 Collegiate Teams Descend Upon Panama City Beach for Spring Sports

PCB to Host Collegiate Baseball, Softball, and Lacrosse Games

[PANAMA CITY BEACH, Fla.] March 13, 2022 – Panama City Beach will play host to over 75 collegiate teams during the month of March.

CollClubSports will bring 52 baseball teams and 11 softball teams to Swing into Spring from March 6-28. Teams are travelling to Panama City Beach from 19 different states for this event. Notable baseball teams attending Swing into Spring include #5 Penn State University, #8 Virginia Tech (2021 World Series Champion), and #17 Illinois State University. Key softball teams include #8 University of Illinois, #13 Florida State, and #16 Grand Valley State University. All spectators are welcome to join at Publix Sports Park free of charge to watch these teams play.

"We are ecstatic to be back at Publix Sports Park for our second year of Swing into Spring – PCB. This venue and this city are the perfect sites for these collegiate baseball teams to visit during their spring break. Here, they are able to escape the northern weather and get out on the field and play ball in preparation for the start of the conference schedule when they return home. Thus, we have committed to returning in March of 2024 and 2025 for two more years of exciting Swing into Spring – PCB action," said Sandy Sanderson, President of CollClubSports.

Collegiate Lacrosse Returns:

"Spring Fling" Women's Lacrosse will also be showcasing their college club event March 12-18. The 2023 "Spring Fling" is comprised of twelve teams. This event began in Panama City Beach in 1997 and has been a staple in the collegiate lacrosse community ever since. "Spring Fling" Women's Lacrosse returns to Panama City Beach after 20 years of hosting the event across several locations throughout Florida. "Spring Fling" Women's Lacrosse aims to reinvigorate the collegiate women's lacrosse community toward spring break in Florida. Admission to the lacrosse games costs \$3 for adults, \$2 for students, and \$5 for double-header matchups. All games will be played at Publix Sports Park.

"We are thrilled to welcome these student-athletes to Panama City Beach. We have worked hard to develop spring game opportunities for teams coming from locations with winter weather. We look forward to continuing to grow these programs for years to come," said Mike Higgins, General Manager of Publix Sports Park.

About CollClubSports

CollClubSports was initially founded as the National Club Baseball Association (NCBA) in 2000. Since then, the NCBA has grown tremendously year after year, reaching over 300 member teams in the 2017 season. In 2006, the National Club Softball Association (NCSA) was created. They started with just 36 teams and have now grown to be more than 140 member teams in the league. There are now three divisions for the NCBA, and they will be expanding the NCSA into a second division in the 2023-2024 season.

About Swing into Spring

This event was held in Tampa for 15+ years before moving it to PCB following the pandemic. 2023 will be the second year in PCB with a contract to return the event through 2025 and hopefully long after that. In 2022, Swing into Spring had a total of 59 teams and this year, it is up to 63 total teams and is looking to continue to grow as teams are getting their feet back under them post-pandemic.

About “Spring Fling” Women’s Lacrosse

“SpringFling” Women’s Lacrosse event began in 1997. The first event brought 29 teams to Panama City Beach, Florida. Over the course of the next 25 years, the event has hosted over 400 teams and 16,000 female student-athletes in four Florida counties. The Director hopes to reinvigorate the collegiate women’s lacrosse community towards spring break in Florida – at “SpringFling” in Panama City Beach!

About Publix Sports Park

The Publix Sports Complex is the premier destination for travel sports tourism in the Florida panhandle. The facility features 13 rectangular fields including 9 with artificial surfaces and two championship fields with seating for up to 1,500 spectators. The flexible design allows for soccer, lacrosse, rugby, football, and flag football, as well as baseball and softball to be played. The Publix Sports Complex is a member of the [SF Network](#), the Nation’s largest and fastest-growing network of sports facilities, and is operated by the industry leader in outsourced operations, [The Sports Facilities Companies](#) (SFC). For more information, visit www.playpanamacitybeach.com.

About Visit Panama City Beach

Visit Panama City Beach is the official destination marketing organization for Panama City Beach, Florida. The award-winning organization has earned industry accreditation (DMAP) from Destinations International, the world’s leading authority in destination marketing, and exists to drive economic opportunity, job creation, community sustainability and quality of life for its residents through marketing, promotion, and stewardship of the destination’s REAL.FUN.BEACH. brand and attributes, tourism development, special event production, and managing beach re-nourishment and maintenance programs.

About Sports Facilities Companies

The Sports Facilities Companies (SFC) are the nation’s leading resources for managing and developing sports, recreation, wellness, and events facilities. As a turn-key solution for community leaders and developers alike, SFC services span the gamut of sports and recreation needs from sports tourism & recreation master planning, program planning, and feasibility through professional facility management services. Our 30+ managed venues and 1500+ team members, represented by the SF Network, welcome more than 25 million guest visits and produce over \$250 million in economic impact each year. To learn more, please visit SportsFacilities.com and theSFNetwork.com.