

Dec. 9 High School Football Championships at Duke

The Triangle Sports Commission will be hosting the 3A and 3AA NC High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) Football Championships at Duke University on Saturday, December 9, 2017. According to the NCHSAA's Commissioner, Que Tucker, the excellent renovations and upgrades to Duke's Wallace Wade Stadium were a key factor in the decision to return the Championships to Duke after an eleven year absence.

There are eight teams remaining in the 3A/3AA playoffs vying for a spot in the final games on December 9. In the 3A brackets on Friday, December 1, Western Alamance and Havelock are battling in the East Championship game, while Charlotte Catholic and Jay M. Robinson (Concord) are competing for the West title. In 3AA, it's Eastern Guilford versus New Hanover in the East, and Sun Valley (Monroe) against A.C. Reynolds (Asheville) in the west. The East and West champions in each division will meet eight days later at Wallace Wade Stadium.

Thank you to our Triangle Sports Commission extended family! Volunteer sign-ups to assist with the NCHSAA Championships have gone very well, resulting in a strong contingent of volunteers that will help ensure the success of the two championship games.

If you are interested in tickets for the games, or more information about the Championships, [click here](#).



New Sponsors Join the TSC Team

We are excited to have **MetLife** and **Summit Hospitality** join our Triangle Sports Commission sponsor team! MetLife is a new Silver Sponsor while Summit is an Official Patron. Both sponsors are supporting the NC High School Football 3A/3AA Championships as Official Local Sponsors.

MetLife opened its world technology hub in Cary in 2016 and currently has over 1,000 employees on its Weston Parkway campus. MetLife confirmed the rapid growth of its local headquarters with the recent announcement it would add a third building (currently under construction) and at least 500 employees, making it one of the fastest growing large corporations in the Triangle region.

Summit Hospitality is one of the largest hoteliers in the state, with properties from Charlotte to Wilmington, and several conveniently located for the Championship games in Durham. Summit has been a long-time supporter of the NCHSAA, and is pleased to make both their **Hyatt Place** and **Hilton Garden Inn Hotels**, located at Streets of Southpoint Mall in Durham, available for fans, families, and friends to attend the Championships. To secure a discounted room for the NC High School Football Championships [click here](#).

Regional Olympic Sports News

With the **2018 Winter Olympic Games** set to kick off in **Pyeongchang, South Korea**, on **Friday, February 9**, less than 75 days from today, the excitement for the Games and Olympic sports is growing, providing the perfect backdrop for reporting on the significant Olympic sports news in central North Carolina:

Baseball: At the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) Congress in Botswana last month, Paul Seiler, CEO of locally-headquartered USA Baseball, was elected Second Vice President of the WBSC Baseball Division.

Basketball: The U.S. beat Mexico 91-55 in a World Cup Qualifier game on Sunday, November 26, at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex. The U.S. is vying with 16 teams in the Americas Zone for one of seven slots in the 2019 FIBA World Cup to be held in China. Former local college stars Amile Jefferson of Duke and Kennedy Meeks of UNC play for Team USA.



Team USA at the Greensboro Coliseum

Curling: During the middle of the Winter Olympic Games, the Triangle Curling Club is hosting a major national bonspiel (curling tournament) - the US Women's Curling Association (WCA) National Championships- from Thursday, February 15 through Sunday evening, February 18, at their new Curling Center located on So-Hi Drive.

Cycling: Durham-based NC Amateur Sports, the state's oldest sports commission, held its annual Mountains-to-Coast ride September 30 to October 7, from Jefferson to Swansboro, with over 1,000 cyclists participating. It was the 19th edition for the event, which benefitted from almost ideal weather this year.



Mountain-to-Coast Cyclists

Fencing: Duke graduate and 2016 Olympian Ibtihaj Muhammad is the model for the newest Barbie doll. Mattel's "Shero" line of dolls reflects more diversity and recognizes women, such as Ibtihaj - the first U.S. athlete to wear a hijab headscarf in the Olympic Games - who are breaking boundaries.

Field Hockey: Both Duke and UNC made the NCAA Tournament, and UNC made it to the Final Four but lost in the semi-finals to eventual national champion Connecticut.

Soccer: For the first time in history, Duke, NC State, and UNC women's teams all made it to the NCAAs and each hosted early round competitions at their home fields. (UNC's home field this season was WakeMed Soccer Park in Cary due to renovations at Fetzer Field.) Duke remains in the chase for the Championship and will play in the Women's College Cup (final four) this weekend in Orlando.

In Men's college soccer, both UNC and Duke made the NCAA Tourney and hosted home games. (Similar to the Women's team, UNC Men's home games are at WakeMed.) UNC is still in the championships and will host Fordham in Round 3 play on Sahlen Field at WakeMed Soccer Park at 6 pm this Saturday.

In Men's professional soccer, North Carolina FC made the playoffs and won their first round game before falling to San Francisco in the semi-finals. NCFC recently announced that it will compete in the USL during the 2018 season.



Duke Women's Soccer after their 4-0 win over Baylor

Table Tennis: Triangle Table Tennis will be hosting the USA Table Tennis Supercamp for USA Table Tennis National Team players from December 26, 2017, to January 2, 2018 at the excellent Triangle Table Tennis facility in Morrisville.

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