

## First National Event Announced for the Wake Competition Center

U.S Figure Skating has announced that the first-ever U.S. Figure Skating National High Performance Development Camp will be held at the Wake Competition Center, currently under construction in Morrisville, NC, from January 26 to 29, 2020. The High Performance Camp will be held in conjunction with the 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Championships that will be hosted nearby in Greensboro, NC, at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex, Jan. 20-26, 2020. The U.S. Figure Skating Championships are the organization's largest event and were also held in Greensboro in 2011 and 2015. The U.S. Figure Skating National High Performance Camp will feature over 250 of the country's top Novice, Intermediate, and Juvenile skaters. The camp is designed to assist those athletes in taking their skating to the next level.

"We are very excited to be hosting the U.S. Figure Skating National High Performance Camp at the new Wake Competition Center," said Hill Carrow, CEO of the Triangle Sports Commission. "The Wake Competition Center is a state-of-the-art sports campus designed to help athletes thrive at their sports. The Triangle Sports Commission is pleased to have played a role supporting the development of the WCC and facilitating the successful bid for the camp."

The Wake Competition Center is located in the center of North Carolina's Triangle Region, five minutes from Raleigh-Durham International Airport and surrounded by over 2,000 hotel rooms and numerous restaurants. The sports campus features an ice facility with two NHL-size ice rinks with 1,200 seats on one rink and 500 seats on the other, a 70,000 square foot volleyball center with 8 courts, a gymnastics center, a high performance sports training center, and two artificial turf soccer fields.



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## USA Curling CEO Pays First Visit to the Triangle

**Rick Patzke**, CEO of USA Curling, was in the Triangle for his first-ever visit to the region Wednesday and Thursday, November 28 and 29th, for a Site Review of our area ice facilities. Rick was treated to a tour of the twin rinks at the Polar Ice Wake Forest facility at the Factory Shoppes in Wake Forest. This was followed by a visit to the Raleigh IcePlex on Raleigh Road, and the Carolina Hurricanes practice facility at Raleigh Center Ice on Hodges Street. The group also spent time on the plans for the new twin ice sheet facility currently under construction as part of Ammons Development's Wake Competition Center in Morrisville, NC. Rick completed his tour with an evening visit to the Triangle Curling Club where members welcomed its first visit by the head of the sport's national governing body.

**Hill Carrow**, CEO, and **Collins Lowder**, Sports Manager, of the Triangle Sports Commission (TSC) led the tour and were joined by **Jim Sutton**, Chairman of the Triangle Curling Club (TCC), and **Mike Baxter**, who heads all local facility operations for Polar Ice. "We've worked very hard during my time at USA Curling to broaden the base of curling from the northern areas of the country, so it is very exciting to see the number of, and activity levels at, so many ice facilities in a southern market," said Rick Patzke, "The local club is doing very well and its membership is growing. With the Triangle's ice facilities and great support of the TSC and TCC, the Raleigh-Durham market appears to have what it takes to host significant USA Curling events in the future."



Collins Lowder, Triangle Sports Commission; Mike Baxter, Polar Ice; Rick Patzke, USA Curling; and Jim Sutton, Triangle Curling Club take part in USA Curling's Triangle area facilities tour.

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## NC High School Football Championships Schedule At Duke

The North Carolina High School Athletic Association has announced the schedule and level of play for its high school football championships to be held at Duke University on Friday and Saturday, December 14th and 15th. Friday's schedule has a 7:30pm championship game, followed on Saturday by 3pm and 7pm games. The games at Duke University will feature the 4A and 4AA championships, and either the 1A or 1AA championship. The NCHSAA will confirm the 1A and 1AA games next weekend.



The Local Organizing Committee for the Championships is headed by the Triangle Sports Commission in partnership with Duke University as the venue host. There are still slots available for volunteers on either Friday evening, or Saturday, or both. To volunteer for the NCHSAA Football Championships, please contact Tess Heron at [theron@trianglesportscommission.com](mailto:theron@trianglesportscommission.com) or 919.678.1652. Volunteer responsibilities include ticketing, team support, and hospitality management.

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