

# NEWS RELEASE

Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau



## ***Winner, Winner Chicken Lunch*** **RACVB to Host Annual Luncheon, May 29** *Event Celebrates 30 Years of Sports Tourism Success*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 14, 2013**

**ROCKFORD, IL** — The Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau will host its annual luncheon on Wednesday, May 29; the public is invited to attend. The event offers tourism partners and the community an opportunity to celebrate a strong year of tourism advances and recognize decades of successful sports marketing tourism.

### **WHEN/WHERE:**

- the future site of the Downtown Sports Complex, 301 S. Water St., Rockford
- Wednesday, May 29 at 12 p.m.

### **SPEAKERS:**

The event includes remarks from Jen Hoelzle, Director of the Illinois Office of Tourism, John Groh, President/CEO of the RACVB as well as some surprise guests. New inductees will also be announced and ushered into the RACVB's Tourism Hall of Fame.

### **RSVP:**

Event registration is now open at [www.gorockford.com](http://www.gorockford.com) or by calling 815-963-8111. Cost is \$40 to attend or \$400 for a table of 12. RSVP by Thursday, May 23.

### **Amateur Sports Leader**

Recognized as the Amateur Sports Capital of the Midwest, the Rockford Region boasts world-class sports facilities that host major tournaments year after year. During the meeting, RACVB will celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of one of the region's most significant sports assets, Sportscore One.

Attendees will hear how the region established its reputation of being a leader in amateur sports, why it is critical that the community reinvests in the sports tourism market and how the entire community will all benefit from cementing the region's stake as a premier sports destination.

The Downtown Sports Complex will be one of the largest indoor sports facilities in the Midwest with more than 85,000 sq. ft. of basketball and volleyball courts, guest amenities, riverfront access and more. The complex will host 30+ tournaments per year, in addition to being available for use by local citizens. Also included in the Reclaiming First master plan is the modernization and expansion of the Indoor Sports Center and Sportscore One and Two complexes.

*RACVB is a private, non-profit organization established in 1984 to champion efforts to promote the Rockford Region as an overnight visitor destination. The RACVB adds wealth to the region's economy by investing in marketing programs that grow tourism. [www.gorockford.com](http://www.gorockford.com)*

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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