

NEWS RELEASE

Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau



Youth Sports Championships Bring a Weekend of Winning to Downtown Rockford

Wrestling and volleyball tournaments collectively generate an estimated economic impact of \$675,000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 8, 2018

ROCKFORD, IL — The Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau celebrates a 16-year partnership with the **Illinois Kids Wrestling Federation (IKWF)** as the tournament kicks off this weekend at the **BMO Harris Bank Center**. Just down the way in downtown Rockford the **Rockin' Rock Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Grand Prix** volleyball tournament takes place at the **UW Health Sports Factory**. Collectively, participants, coaches and fans who travel to the region for the tournaments this weekend will impact the region to an estimated tune of **\$675,000** during their stays.

"RACVB and our industry partners are committed to providing these visitors with exceptional venues, customer support and memorable experiences that exceed expectations," said Nick Povalitis, RACVB director of sports development. "As a leading sports tourism destination in the Midwest, we understand tournament directors have options and appreciate that they choose our region to raise their game."

SPORTS TOURNAMENT WEEKEND LINE-UP

Illinois Kids Wrestling Federation (IKWF) Championships

Date: Friday, March 9 – Saturday, March 10, 2018 (weigh-ins begin Thursday, March 8)

Location: BMO Harris Bank Center, Rockford, IL

Attendance: Approximately 900 top wrestlers in Illinois, boys and girls, ages 10-14 will participate this year with approximately 4,000 total visitors.

Economic Impact: \$513,000

More information: <http://www.ikwf.org/stateinfo.php>.

Rockin' Rockford Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Grand Prix Volleyball Tournament

Date: Saturday, March 10 – Sunday, March 11, 2018

Location: UW Health Sports Factory, Rockford, IL

Attendance: 100 teams expected, ages 12U-18U

Economic Impact: \$162,000

More information: <http://www.aausports.org/News/View-Story/ArtMID/1108/ArticleID/66741>.

RACVB exists to drive quality of life and economic growth for the citizens of Rockford and Winnebago County through tourism marketing and destination development. [gorockford.com](http://www.gorockford.com)

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