

The Huddle

Hamilton County Sports Authority **News**

Get the 2017 sports calendar online

Find out the latest sports events and tournaments coming to Hamilton County via the [online calendar](#). The season is shaping up to be among the biggest yet. Hamilton County Tourism is projecting hotels will be sold out or near capacity several weekends throughout the spring and summer thanks to all the tournaments coming to Hamilton County in addition to special events, festivals and concerts. The Hamilton County Sports Authority is recommending that teams book early.

Here are some of the major events coming to Hamilton County:

- The Circle City Women's College Showcase Feb. 24-26 will bring national championship teams and college scouts to Grand Park.
- More than 32 high school hockey teams from across Indiana will compete March 3-5 for the Indiana State High School Athletics Playdowns at the Fuel Tank in Fishers. It's the first time the tournament has been in Hamilton County.
- An estimated 4,000 runners will compete in the seventh annual Carmel Marathon April 7.
- More than 30,000 spectators (and a host of college scouts) will be at Grand Park for two weekends of the Crossroads of America College Showcase April 21-23 and April 28-30.
- In June, 120 baseball teams will compete in the Grand Park Frenzy.
- Noblesville Field of Dreams will host the Noblesville Youth Baseball World Series over the July 4 weekend. More than 84 teams are expected.
- The U.S. Club Soccer Nationals is expecting nearly 8,000 people at Grand Park in July.
- For the first time, Grand Park will host the USA Archery Outdoor National Championship where approximately 1,000 archers, including Olympic hopefuls, will compete.

Have an event coming up? Post it on the [sports calendar](#).

Hamilton County Sports Authority

37 East Main Street
Carmel, IN 46032
P 317.848.3181 / 800.776.8687
VisitHamiltonCounty.com/Sports



Introducing the Sports Playbook Series

Sports clubs face a variety of challenges when they are organizing leagues and scheduling tournaments. To help local clubs, HCSA created the Sports Playbook Series. This quarterly forum will give local sports clubs a chance to hear from experts about common issues facing sports organizations. Club leaders will also be able to share ideas. The Sports Playbook Series kicked off in January with a program about online scheduling software. Other topics may include how to engage the community, dealing with difficult parents and risk management.

“Our goal is to offer experts who can give local clubs information and insights that could help them function more efficiently and successfully,” said Scott Spillman, HCSA sports development manager. “It’s also a great opportunity for clubs to network and troubleshoot issues they may be facing.”

The next Playbook is scheduled for April 19. For more information, contact [Scott Spillman](#).

Hamilton County Sports Authority

37 East Main Street

Carmel, IN 46032

P 317.848.3181 / 800.776.8687

VisitHamiltonCounty.com/Sports



Promoting the value of sports tourism

Sports tourism is more than just fun and games. It's an important economic driver for Hamilton County, and to help share the sports tourism story, HCSA is launching 6 & 6 Lunches. Throughout 2017, HCSA will ask six board members or key partners to invite a colleague or friend who knows nothing about HCSA to lunch where HCSA will share its goals and mission and talk about the benefits of sports tourism.



Introducing HCT's new sales director

Hamilton County Tourism added a veteran tourism and sales director to its ranks to help sell the benefits of bringing events and groups facilities throughout the county. Laura Kelner spent 14 years at Visit Indy, where she managed a 10-person sales staff as director of sales for four years. Most recently, she was the client care manager at Home Instead Senior Care. In 2002, Kelner co-founded Indiana Women In Need Foundation, an Indiana nonprofit that provides financial and personal assistance to women undergoing treatment for breast cancer. She continues to volunteer for the organization. Kelner began her new role Jan. 30.

Hamilton County Sports Authority

37 East Main Street

Carmel, IN 46032

P 317.848.3181 / 800.776.8687

VisitHamiltonCounty.com/Sports