

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CENTER St. Louis in Affton is the indoor training Headquarters for local little league, high school, collegiate and professional sports teams.

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI – CENTER St. Louis is now open at 6727 Langley Avenue, Affton Missouri in St. Louis County. With its over 90,000-square feet facility, including; 6 full size basketball courts, 8 tournament volleyball courts, a completely netted turf field that can be subdivided with separate batting cages, and a massive full service professional fitness center under construction that will soon feature professional and collegiate use along with a specialized MMA - Mixed Martial Arts ring and training area, Center St. Louis is able to address a wide spectrum of needs from essential little league skills through to collegiate and professional athletes demands. Center St. Louis is growing its current training group to enable enough direct service to any team and coach that would want to use the facility for maximum training and preparation. Specialized training and the availability of space and equipment to support athletic enhancement is the Center St. Louis formula.



Volleyball Tournament at the CENTER St. Louis on February 8, 2014

Recently the St. Louis Attack, the area's premier Indoor Football Team, has begun its 2014 training here and made Center St. Louis its full service professional training center. St. Louis' largest baseball and softball training company will make a home at Center St. Louis by creating a much needed franchise location at this well located south county site. Noted volleyball groups; H2, HP, TSL, Stratman and CYC have engaged Center St. Louis by establishing tournament dates, league play and regular scheduled practice. Premier basketball clubs like; United Hoops, Gym Rats, Hi5, Coach T Foundation, as well as many others have scheduled key regional and national tournaments.

The transformation of the CENTER is being spearheaded by real estate developer Eric J. Spirtas, a group of businessmen and sports enthusiasts looking to offer a dynamic sports venue. "The CENTER has a 40 year history as the former Hampshire Racket Club and more recently the St. Louis Sports Center, and during those years the site has proven useful for groups of all ages, but it desperately needed a new roof, better parking, utility upgrades and a general facelift," says President Eric J. Spirtas, "After a few months of good weather and planned construction, you will see a bright, shiny facility. While our investment is significant, the intention of using a former facility and funding upgrades instead of seeking a green-field site elsewhere in the county, centers on the need of our users to keep their costs low."

Center St. Louis has found that youth leagues, universities and professional sports teams alike have a budget and while they are willing to pay for use, they cannot afford unreasonable rental rates. Users need consistent, scheduled, professional service and that is what Rick Klohmann, General Manager of Center St. Louis guarantees, "I have been directing and participating in tournaments around the region all of my adult life and I know what tournament directors want. This venue is an investment in the growing St. Louis competitive sports scene. Center St Louis wants to provide only the best facility for tournaments, teams and events from across the Midwest," says Klohmann.

Plans are underway for a Phase II expansion that will further the support of first class competitive sports and event space. Aside from the existing concession operation which will be upgraded, Center is designing a full service restaurant, full deck entrance and seating, fitness center enhancements along with complete training services, and updated locker rooms, team rooms and professional amenities such as physical therapy, massage treatment and other concierge type in-house conveniences to heighten the user and guest experience. Steve Garner, head of operations was proud of the renovations stating how he has already managed to book a number of; expos, meetings, speakers, lock-ins and cultural events as well as unique sporting events such as; Dodge Ball, Lacrosse and Frisbee tournaments and he believes that he will soon have engagements for private concert events. "I have been in the service industry all of my life," says Garner, "Our mission at the Center is for people to participate in or on the side lines of an event and through the time spent at the facility, we will be sure to share other ways to use the building and either get a workout in at our gym, enjoy down time with your team at our restaurant, find a spot on the court where you want to showcase your business or plan to participate in a number of upcoming events by just checking our events board."

The CENTER will hold its formal grand opening on Friday April 4th yet has 6 full scale tournaments scheduled before that date, open times are still available for booking and open gym is daily for basketball, volleyball and turf (use dependent upon availability). CENTER St. Louis business office is open from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. For additional event and training information call Rick Klohmann 314.610.2727 / rick.klohmann@centerstl.com or Steven Garner 314-226-3839 / steven.garner@centerstl.com. For advertisement opportunities or questions about available branding, contact John Ruzzo, Director of Marketing at 314.307.8944 / john.ruzzo@centerstl.com.