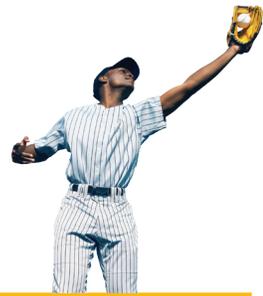




PALM BEACH  
SPORTS.COM

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# GAME ON!



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## SPRING TRAINING RETURNS TO PALM BEACH COUNTY

Major League Baseball (MLB) Spring Training returns to Palm Beach County as the St. Louis Cardinals and Miami Marlins play a total of 31 games in the Grapefruit League at Roger Dean Stadium in Jupiter. The season will witness the Marlins and Cardinals competing against some of the most talented teams in Major League Baseball. Perennial playoff contenders, such as the New York Yankees, Boston Red Sox, Detroit Tigers, Minnesota Twins, Atlanta Braves, and New York Mets will roll into Palm Beach County. Spring Training is a giant contributor to the Palm Beach County economy. The two MLB teams generate more than \$40 million of economic impact and 10,000 hotel room nights. Last year, the two teams attracted over 212,000 spectators during Spring Training (including 2 games at Marlins Park).



Roger Dean Stadium is a \$28 million complex specifically designed to house two Major League Baseball teams. The complex is a state-of-the-art facility. Roger Dean Stadium is the only stadium in the country to host two minor league teams as well as the only stadium in Florida to host two MLB teams during spring training. The 7,000 seat stadium features luxury

skybox seating, permanent seating, parking and concession. In addition to the stadium, the complex consists of 12 ancillary diamonds that is utilized to host some of the nation's largest baseball tournaments.

Major League Baseball Spring Training has become one of the largest economic generators for the state of Florida. The Grapefruit League, which is comprised of 15 MLB franchises, attracted a total of 1,622,957 fans through the admission gates in 2012. The Florida Sports Foundation reported that Major League Baseball Spring Training generated over \$750 million of economic impact for the state. This coming year celebrates the 125th Anniversary of Major League Baseball Spring Training in the State of Florida.

The annual tradition has evolved into one of the greatest traditions and spectacles for sports in the United States.

Tickets can be purchased at the Roger Dean Stadium ticket office, via Ticketmaster at (800) 745-3000, or visit [rogerdeanstadium.com](http://rogerdeanstadium.com). Purchase your tickets now to make sure you don't miss any of the action!

## THE HONDA CLASSIC SWINGS INTO PALM BEACH COUNTY



The 2013 Honda Classic will be in full swing on Thursday, February 28th through Sunday March 3rd as a field of 144 PGA TOUR professionals take to the links at PGA National Resort and Spa to compete for a total purse of \$6 million. This tournament marks the seventh year the tournament returns to PGA National Resort and Spa and

the eleventh consecutive year The Honda Classic is taking place in Palm Beach County. The event tees off at 7:00am on Thursday, February 28 and Friday, March 1. Action begins at 9:00am on Saturday, March 2 and Sunday, March 3.

The Honda Classic received exciting news when Tiger Woods, one of world's greatest golf legends and resident of Jupiter Island, committed to compete in the 2013 Honda Classic. Woods' appearance at The Honda Classic will mark a return to the place where he made a frantic charge last year (an eight-under par 62 on Sunday) at eventual champion Rory McIlroy before finishing second. "I'm excited to be playing The Honda Classic again," Woods said. "It's a really good tournament, and it does a lot for the community. I like the golf course, and I came pretty close last year. It's part of a busy stretch for me, and I want to continue playing well."

Woods' return to PGA National is a continued huge endorsement for The Honda Classic, which has steadily been rising in stature with TOUR players since its move to PGA National in 2007. Rory McIlroy and Justin Rose, currently ranked No. 1 and 5 in the world, belong to the tournament's international field that also includes No. 6 Louis Oosthuizen, No. 8 Lee Westwood, No. 12 Jason Dufner, No. 15 Keegan Bradley, No. 16 Charl Schwartzel, No. 19 Graeme McDowell, No. 20 Peter Hanson, No. 23 Bo Van Pelt and the British Open Champion, Ernie Els. Other notables in the early field include Rickie Fowler, Robert Allenby, Stuart Appleby, Stuart Cink, Erik Compton, Retief Goosen, Vijay Singh, Camilo Villegas and Mark Wilson. "We obviously are thrilled to have Tiger Woods return," Honda Classic Executive Director Ken Kennerly said. "We have worked tirelessly for the past six years to make this an elite event on the PGA TOUR and the presence of the top players has allowed us to reach even higher than we ever thought imaginable." Kennerly also noted, "The sharp rise in our charitable contributions in 2012 was a testament to how powerful Tiger's presence is for the select tournaments that he chooses to play. We are humbled that he has chosen to return to The Honda Classic and look forward to another great Tiger battle with our defending champion Rory McIlroy and the other top players in the world."

The Honda Classic is one of Palm Beach County's marquee sporting events. In 2012, over 161,700 spectators attended the tournament, an incredible 45% increase from the previous year. The Honda Classic makes a major impact regionally, nationally, and internationally. The tournament provides PGA Tour excitement to incoming visitors and Palm Beach County residents alike. This provides a major boost to the local economy. Fans, media, sponsors, and the players generated over 5,000 hotel room nights in addition to more than \$40 million of economic impact in 2012. Palm Beach County is showcased world-wide as The Honda Classic is televised live on the Golf Channel and NBC and is internationally distributed to 221 countries, with a potential reach that exceeds 570 million households. The economic benefits derived from The Honda Classic are expected to rise in 2013.

While the event strives to provide Palm Beach County with a premier professional sporting event, the ultimate goal is to positively impact youth in need through

charitable endeavors. In 2012, the event raised \$1.85 million for charity, including \$400,000 for the Nicklaus Children's Health Care Foundation.



The Champions Course at PGA National is a major reason why The Honda Classic has blossomed into one of the elite events on the PGA TOUR. The Champion course has become known as one of the most challenging layouts in tournament golf. The Bear Trap, comprised of Holes 15-17, is considered one of the toughest stretches of golf on the PGA TOUR. PGA National has helped build Palm Beach County's storied golf reputation. In addition to The Honda Classic, PGA National has hosted some of golf's most defining moments, including the 1983 Ryder Cup and the 1987 PGA Championship. "We feel like we have the best venue on the PGA TOUR," Kennerly said.

Make sure you visit The Honda Classic, one of the greatest spectacles in sports for Palm Beach County. In addition to featuring the best PGA TOUR stars competing, The Honda Classic features a week-long schedule of events and activities, including a pro-am tournament, golf clinics, practice rounds, children's activities and an "after play" concert series. For additional event information, ticket packages and commitment list of PGA TOUR professionals, please visit [www.thehondaclassic.com](http://www.thehondaclassic.com).

## COLLEGE BASEBALL SPRING TRAINING EVENT ATTRACTS TEAMS FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE

The Palm Beach County Sports Commission partners with Diamond Management Group and Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation to host the Palm Beach Challenge, a spring training forum for college baseball where NCAA and NAIA baseball teams travel to Palm Beach County during spring break to practice and compete in official games. Over 35 college baseball teams will travel to Palm Beach County, during their spring breaks, to play over 70 baseball games in 25 days at the 2013 Palm Beach Challenge.

The event will take place at Santaluces Athletic Complex, the former Spring Training facility for Major League Baseball's Montreal Expos, from February 28-April 6, 2013. Several collegiate programs will have the opportunity to showcase their talent throughout the month-long event. In addition to great collegiate talent, the event brings numerous Major League Baseball scouts. Last year, over 40 of the event's participants were drafted by Major League Baseball (MLB) franchises in the annual MLB first year player draft. In 2013, the Palm Beach Challenge will expand to an international event as teams from across the United States and the globe will visit Palm Beach County to play baseball. Teams from 10 different states, Canada, and Russia will participate. This marks the first time that a sports team from Russia has competed in any international baseball tournament that has taken place in South Florida.



This year marks the 10th anniversary for the Palm Beach Challenge. The Palm Beach County Sports Commission worked with Diamond Management Group to establish the Palm Beach Challenge in 2004. Last year this event generated over 2,000 room nights and over \$2 million in estimated economic impact. Nearly 17,000 room nights have been generated with an overall estimated economic impact of over \$16 million in the nine years this event has taken place in Palm Beach County. Opening Day will take place on Thursday February 28, 2013 at 6pm with Queens College (NY) vs. St Thomas University (FL) and Mercyhurst University (PA) vs. Palm Beach Atlantic University. Prior to the opening games, a free youth baseball clinic begins at 5:00pm with a special appearance by Billy the Marlin. The Challenge will feature up to 8 baseball games per day. Daily admission is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children. For more information on the Palm Beach Challenge visit [palmbeachchallenge.com](http://palmbeachchallenge.com).

## "SPRINGFLING" WOMEN'S LACROSSE RETURNS TO PALM BEACH COUNTY

For the tenth consecutive year, the premier spring training event for women's collegiate lacrosse programs (Division I, II, & III) and secondary prep schools returns to Palm Beach County. The seventeenth annual "Spring Fling" will take place at Lake Lytal Park in West Palm Beach, from March 10-21, 2013. Teams from across the nation will travel to Palm Beach County during their spring break to train, scrimmage, and compete in official NCAA contests throughout the 12 day event. Athletes and coaches from major lacrosse programs will experience Palm Beach County.

The Palm Beach County Sports Commission has worked in partnership with Gene DeLorenzo from GKD SportsVision of Vermont to bring this event to Palm Beach County after spending seven years in Panama City, FL. "The event moved to West Palm Beach to take advantage of better weather, a larger airport and better field space," said Event Director, Gene DeLorenzo. Since its inception in 1997, "SpringFling" has developed a rich legacy of collegiate spring training practices, scrimmages and official NCAA games. Highly successful collegiate teams, including several NCAA Division II and Division III national champions have visited Palm Beach County as part of "Spring Fling".

"Spring Fling" has made a significant contribution to Palm Beach County tourism. Over 500 teams with nearly 17,000 athletes and spectators have traveled to Palm Beach County since the relocation from Panama City in 2004. The event is responsible for generating more than 18,900 hotel room nights and an infusion of new dollars for Palm Beach County.

The event attracts some of the most competitive lacrosse programs in the nation. Last year, "Spring Fling" featured perennial lacrosse powers, Notre Dame and Yale. The 2013 edition of "Spring Fling" will open on March 10th at 6pm. Lake Lytal will be home to the top women's lacrosse programs once again. Admission for the games is free!



Visit [www.springfling1.com](http://www.springfling1.com) for a complete schedule of events. For more information on "Spring Fling", please contact Gene DeLorenzo at [gkdsportsvision@comcast.com](mailto:gkdsportsvision@comcast.com) or the Palm Beach County Sports Commission at (561) 233-3180 or [kpursell@palmbeachsports.com](mailto:kpursell@palmbeachsports.com).

## GUY QUATTLEBAUM ELECTED PRESIDENT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY SPORTS COMMISSION



Guy Quattlebaum, an attorney for Akerman Senterfitt's Litigation Practice Group in the firm's West Palm Beach office, has been elected president of the Palm Beach County Sports Commission for a year-long term.

Quattlebaum has been a member of the commission for more than five years, and most recently served as vice president for the preceding two years. He received the prestigious Lois Kwasman MVP Award in 2010 and 2011 for his outstanding service as a member of the board of directors of the commission.

Quattlebaum concentrates his practice in the area of complex commercial cases, with experience in banking, labor and employment, probate, condominium associations, and real estate litigation, including products liability, wrongful death, toxic torts, premises liability, construction, and other personal injury matters. He has represented a broad range of clients in litigation matters, including retailers, manufacturers, and professional service providers.

"We are excited that Guy has taken on his new role as President of the Board for the Palm Beach County Sports Commission" says George Linley, Executive Director. "We look forward to great things under his leadership."

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