

UPCOMING CONVENTION AND SPORTS EVENTS

May 2014

OHIO HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION | April 28-May 1 ***Annual Convention and Exposition***

Featuring nearly 175 educational sessions and a tradeshow, the OHCA convention is the premier long-term care event in the Midwest. Attendees will learn, network, do business and renew their spirit and energy.

- Attendance:** 3,000
- Meals:** Tuesday dinner is open. Wednesday dinner is open for most attendees. Lunch is provided on Thursday and the convention ends at 2:45 p.m.
- Exhibits:** 300 companies. Not open to the public.
- Location:** Greater Columbus Convention Center, downtown hotels
- Website:** www.ohca.org
- Twitter:** @OHCA_OCAL_OCID
- Group Contact:** Kathy Chapman, kchapman@ohca.org
- Experience Columbus Contact:** Bill Behrens, bbehrens@experiencecolumbus.com

CAPITAL CITY HALF MARATHON | May 3

The 11th edition of the Capital City Half Marathon begins at the corner of Broad St. and Front St. and takes participants north, mostly along Olentangy River Road, to The Ohio State University campus. The course travels through the city's most unique neighborhoods and finishes at the Columbus Commons. Yellow Tail Sparkling Wine and Chocolate will be served at the Byers Xtra Mile Finish Line Party, which features a post-race concert by SWAGG.

Saturday, May 3:

- Capital City Half Marathon: 8 a.m., Broad St. & Front St.
- Patron Quarter Marathon: 8 a.m., Broad St. & Front St.
- Commit To Be Fit 5K: 8:20 a.m., Front St. & Chapel Alley
- Byers Xtra Mile Finish Line Party: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Columbus Commons
- Michelob ULTRA Post Race Concert: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Columbus Bicentennial Pavilion
- Columbus Commons Family Fun Zone: 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Columbus Commons
- Capital Kids Fit & Fun Village: 9 a.m.-11 a.m., Columbus Commons
- The Diamond Cellar VIP Tent: 6 a.m.-1 p.m., Northeast corner of the Byers Xtra Mile Finish Line Party



- Attendance:** 30,000 (including athletes)
- Meals:** There will be food at the Finish Line Party for participants; attendees will be on their own for other meals.
- Location:** Starting Line: Broad St. & Front St.
Finish Line: Columbus Commons
- Website:** [Capital City Half Marathon](#)
- Facebook:** [Capital City Half Marathon](#)
- Group Contact:** Jon Yurchiak, jon@m3ssports.com
- Sports Commission Contact:** Ariana Tyler, atyler@columbusports.org

OVR KAEP-USA 2014 GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS | May 3-4; May 10-11; May 17-18

The top girls' teams from Ohio, western Pennsylvania, and West Virginia will compete for the regional championship. The Ohio Valley Region Inc. promotes and establishes volleyball in the Ohio Valley region. For three weekends in May, the Greater Columbus Convention Center will be filled with outstanding youth volleyball.

- Attendance:** 5,000
- Meals:** Attendees are on their own for meals
- Location:** Greater Columbus Convention Center
- Website:** [Ohio Valley Region](#)
- Facebook:** [Ohio Valley Region of USA Volleyball](#)
- Twitter:** [@OVRvb](#)
- Group Contact:** Ron Wyzynski, wyzynski@ovr.org
- Sports Commission Contact:** Ariana Tyler, atyler@columbusports.org

MARCON | May 9-11 *Multiple Alternate Realities Convention*

Marcon is the Midwest's premier fantasy and science fiction convention. The event features something for everyone interested in the fantasy or science fiction genre from art, costuming, filk and gaming to literary, media, science and video, plus children's programs, an art show, and a dance and masquerade. A dealer's room is set aside for those wishing to expand their science fiction, comic book, jewelry or costuming collections.

- Attendance:** 1,900
- Meals:** Attendees are on their own for all meals
- Exhibits:** Approximately 50 vendors. Open to the public with paid admission
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Location: Arena District Hyatt Regency

Website: www.marcon.org

Twitter: @marconOH

Group Contact: Kim Williams, kimwilliams9@gmail.com

Experience Columbus Contact: Sharon Levine, slevine@experiencecolumbus.com

GLTA 2014 Columbus Classic Tennis Tournament | May 9-11

The Columbus Metropolitan Tennis Organization hosts its 3rd annual Gay & Lesbian Tennis Association Tournament. Proceeds will benefit Buddy Up Tennis! Buddy up Tennis is a weekly, high-energy, 90-minute program focused on adaptive tennis, fitness, and fun for children and adults with Down Syndrome. This year's event will be held on Ohio State's campus, at the Lincoln Tower Courts.

Thursday, May 8:

- Draw Party: 7-9 p.m., Union Café

Friday, May 9:

- Regulation Play: Play starts at 8 a.m.

Saturday, May 10:

- Regulation Play: Starts at 8 a.m.
- Banquet: 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 11:

- Regulation Play: Start time tbd

Attendance: 1,000

Meals: Attendees are on their own for meals; a banquet is held Saturday night

Location: The Ohio State University – Lincoln Tower Courts

Website: [Columbus Classic](#)

Facebook: [Columbus Classic](#)

Group Contact: Mark Buckingham, Kingsman93@aol.com

Sports Commission Contact: Ariana Tyler, at Tyler@columbusports.org

BLACK ENTERPRISE | May 14-17 ***Entrepreneurs Conference***

Entrepreneurs from across the country come together to take in everything the conference has to offer – from informative sessions, high-powered speakers and networking opportunities to essential tools for emerging and established entrepreneurs.

Attendance: 1,500



- Meals:** There is a welcome reception on Wednesday evening so some attendees may go to dinner afterwards. They are on their own for dinner on Thursday.
- Exhibits:** 130 companies. Not open to the public.
- Location:** Greater Columbus Convention Center, Arena District Hyatt Regency
- Website:** <http://www.blackenterprise.com/events/entrepreneurs-conference/>
- Twitter:** @blackenterprise
- Group Contact:** Sherry Herbert, herberts@blackenterprise.com
- Experience Columbus Contact:** Bill Behrens, bbehrens@experiencecolumbus.com

OHIO MACHINE OPENING DAY | May 17

The Ohio Machine is back for its third season and is set with its regular season roster for Saturday, May 17, when it takes on the New York Lizards at 8 p.m. The first 3,000 fans in attendance at the home opener will receive a commemorative seat cushion courtesy of Wexner Medical Center at The Ohio State University as part of *OSU Sports Medicine Night*. There will be a post-game fireworks show.

- Attendance:** 5,000
- Location:** Selby Stadium – Ohio Wesleyan University
- Website:** [Ohio Machine](#)
- Facebook:** [Ohio Machine](#)
- Twitter:** [@MachineMLL](#)
- Team Contact:** (614) 754-1973

NCAA DIVISION III TRACK & FIELD OUTDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS | May 22-24

The three-day meet is the largest single site for number of competitors in any of the championships hosted by the NCAA Division III. A variety of events happen throughout the day; therefore spectators and athletes will be coming and going all weekend. This is the second time OWU has hosted the NCAA Division III outdoor track & field championships.

- Attendance:** 5,000
- Meals:** Attendees are on their own for meals
- Location:** Ohio Wesleyan University – George Gauthier Track
- Website:** [Track & Field Outdoor Championships](#)
- Facebook:** [Track & Field Outdoor Championships](#)
- Twitter:** [@NCAA](#)
- Group Contact:** Kris Boey, kwboey@owu.edu



Sports Commission Contact: Ariana Tyler, atyler@columbusports.org;
Jeremy Leifel, jleifel@columbusports.org

THE MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT PRESENTED BY NATIONWIDE INSURANCE (OFFICIAL PGA TOUR EVENT) | May 26-June 1

A premier stop on the PGA Tour founded and hosted by Jack Nicklaus annually at Muirfield Village Golf Club. As a restricted event on the PGA Tour, only the first 75 players on the previous year's money-list are guaranteed invitations. The tournament features a yearly induction ceremony honoring past golfers.

Monday, May 26: Practice Rounds

Tuesday, May 27: Practice Rounds

Wednesday, May 28: Practice Rounds

- Nationwide Invitational at the Memorial – 8:30 a.m.
- Memorial Honoree Ceremony – 3 p.m.
- Jack Nicklaus Golf Clinic – 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 29: First Tournament Round – Gates open at 7 a.m.

Friday, May 30: Second Tournament Round – Gates open at 7 a.m.

Saturday, May 31: Third Tournament Round – Gates open at 7 a.m.

Sunday, June 1: Final Tournament Round – Gates open at 7 a.m.

Meals: Attendees are on their own for meals

Location: Muirfield Village Golf Club

Website: [the Memorial Tournament](#)

Facebook: [the Memorial Tournament](#)

Twitter: [@MemorialGolf](#)

Group Contact: tsprouse@thememorialtournament.com

Sports Commission Contact: Ariana Tyler, atyler@columbusports.org

OHSAA BOYS TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS | May 30-31

The 2014 OHSAA Boys Tennis Championships will be hosted by the Ohio State University. The top high school tennis players in the state are poised to offer some exciting tennis action.

Friday, May 30: 9 a.m.

Saturday, May 31: 9 a.m.

Attendance: 1,500



- Meals:** Attendees will be on their own for meals
- Location:** The Ohio State University – Varsity Tennis Courts
- Website:** [OHSAA Boys Tennis](http://OHSAABoysTennis.org)
- Facebook:** [OHSAA](https://www.facebook.com/OHSAA)
- Twitter:** [@OHSAAsports](https://twitter.com/OHSAAsports)
- Group Contact:** Roxanne Price, rprice@ohsaa.org
- Sports Commission Contact:** Ariana Tyler, at Tyler@columbusports.org

The **Experience Columbus Visitor Center** in the Arena District is open seven days a week to help your customers find their way around the city: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. The Visitor Center is located on the corner of Nationwide Blvd. and Neil Ave. at 277 W. Nationwide Blvd., 43215. Phone: 614-221-6623.

The Convention and Sports Alert is published monthly to assist area restaurants, hotels and other facilities in anticipating their staffing and supply needs. To add, change or delete an email recipient, please contact Bill Behrens at BBehrens@ExperienceColumbus.com.

