



AGRICULTURE NEWS

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REGISTRATION OPEN FOR BROOMBALL TOURNAMENT IN THE NEW EXPOSITION CENTER AT THE 2018 GREAT NEW YORK STATE FAIR

*Tournament is the First of Many Youth and Adult Sports Events to be Announced
for Expo Center's Temporary Ice Rink*

*Expo Center Events Complement "CNY Rising" – The Region's Comprehensive
Strategy to Revitalize Communities and Grow the Economy*

Registration is underway for the first-ever broomball tournament at the 2018 Great New York State Fair. The event will take place Saturday and Sunday, August 25 and 26 on a temporary ice rink to be installed in the new Exposition Center in the heart of the Fairgrounds. Plans are underway for other youth and community sports competitions and exhibitions on the rink. Registration information for teams that wish to participate is available [here](#). There is no cost to register and the Fair will provide admission and parking passes to participants.

"We are excited about the many ways we can use this rink to engage winter sports enthusiasts from all over New York State and showcase the four seasons of wonderful attractions in our state. We're grateful to our partners at the City of Syracuse Parks and Recreation Department and Syracuse Indoor Sports Center for enthusiastically jumping in to make this tournament a reality. Personally, I can't wait to give broomball a try," said Troy Waffner, Acting Fair Director.

While there is no cost for a team to enter the tournament, teams must send a \$100 deposit to guarantee their places. The deposit will be returned after the team plays its final game or will be donated to charity if the team does not appear. Each team will play

at least three matches. Games will last 40 minutes and feature no physical checking, using USA Broomball rules. Coed teams must have two female players on the ice at all times other than during penalties, not including the goalie. Those interested in participating can text Kevin Perrigo at 315-569-3330 with questions about the event.

Plans are also underway to feature hockey, speed skating, figure skating and other events on the ice, with registration information coming soon. The temporary rink will take up about two thirds of the new Expo Center. The remainder will be used to create interactive displays showcasing New York State outdoor attractions. The popular I LOVE NY exhibit will relocate to the Expo Center from the Center of Progress Building and will be joined by exhibits from other state agencies involved in tourism. The sand sculpture will also move to the Expo Center and will feature a tourism theme.

The Expo Center is the centerpiece of the second phase of renovations at the New York State Fairgrounds. At 110,000 square feet of clear-span space, the Expo Center will be the largest facility of its type north of New York City between Boston and Cleveland when it opens in time for the Fair. It will attract large events that have bypassed Upstate New York in the past because of a lack of suitable space. Three events – a drone racing competition, a newly-created horse show and a fall harvest festival – are already booked for the facility for later in 2018.

Accelerating Central NY Rising

Today's announcement complements "Central NY Rising," the region's comprehensive blueprint to generate robust economic growth and community development. The State has already invested more than \$4.7 billion in the region since 2012 to lay the groundwork for the plan – capitalizing on global market opportunities, strengthening entrepreneurship and creating an inclusive economy. Today, unemployment is down to the lowest levels since before the Great Recession; personal and corporate income taxes are down; and businesses are choosing places like Syracuse, Oswego and Auburn as a destination to grow and invest in.

Now, the region is accelerating Central NY Rising with a \$500 million State investment through the Upstate Revitalization Initiative, announced by Governor Cuomo in December 2015. The State's \$500 million investment will incentivize private business to invest well over \$2.5 billion – and the region's plan, as submitted, projects up to 5,900 new jobs. More information is available [here](#).

The New York State Fair, operated by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, runs from August 22 to September 3, 2018. The Fair's mission, reflected

in its theme, "FIND YOUR GREAT," is to showcase the best of New York agriculture while providing top-quality entertainment.

The home of the Great New York State Fair is a 375-acre exhibit and entertainment complex that operates all year. A year-round schedule of events is available on the Fair's website. Find The Great New York State Fair on Facebook, follow @NYSFair on Twitter, on Snapchat at nysfair and enjoy photos from the Fair at Flickr.com/photos/nysfair. Also, New Yorkers are invited to send their ideas for the Great New York State Fair at statefairideas@agriculture.ny.gov.

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