



Tournaments bringing teams to town, Sports Pavilion Lawrence

Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department's Sports Pavilion Lawrence has played host to several tournaments throughout the year. One was a high-caliber AAU tournament that used to be played in Kansas City, the KC Classic, held in late May, which showcased Division I recruits from across the country. The field for the tournament was 160 teams and games were also played at the Community Building, East Lawrence Recreation Center, KU recreation and at facilities in Eudora.

During the months of June and July, SPL will also host six regional basketball tournaments and one AAU tournament. The regional tournaments will bring youth from third grade to high school grades. The AAU tournament to be held in July will bring 200 teams from across the country. Former KU Basketball Players Ben McLemore and Andrew Wiggins will be hosting their Adidas camp in July, as well as Wayne Simien's Basketball Camp. There will also be a KU Volleyball Camp being held at SPL.

SPL Plays Part in NCAA West Regional Track Meet

Sports Pavilion Lawrence hosted coaches and official's meeting for the recent NCAA West Regional Track and Field Meet. We designated the turf area for them and with the rainy weather that week the athletes spent a good amount of time at SPL.



Bill Self's camp held at SPL

University of Kansas Men's Basketball Coach Bill Self held his youth basketball camp at Sports Pavilion Lawrence for a second year. The camps ran for two weeks and included more than 400 youth in the first week and more were expected during week two before finishing up with a team camp the final weekend of the two-week period.

What they are saying

"Sports Pavilion Lawrence is a tremendous facility to run a premiere youth basketball event in. The quality of the facility, matched with the assistance of Chad Tower and his staff really set an event up for success. We were thoroughly impressed with the staff's willingness to reach out and address potential issues weeks in advance of an event, making sure they are prepared to support an event operator. It's not typical for an event operator to feel supported by a facility - it is typically a relationship built on a "transaction" between a facility operator and a tenant. However, Chad and his staff went over the top to support us and make sure our event ran smoothly. That is exactly the type of thing that will keep premiere event operators wanting to come back.

In addition, because of the generous amount of space surrounding each court, patron traffic flows effortlessly, even during peak hours of attendance. Fans are offered multiple view points for games, whether enjoying the game from the bleachers near the court, or atop the overhanging terrace. As a result, event operators are able to earn a considerable amount of goodwill from coaches, players, and fans simply by running an event in such an incredible facility. All the natural light that comes in from the oversized windows is a nice touch as well."

-Derek Evans, of MOKAN Basketball, Tournament Organizer