

Sports Playbook

Bradenton Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau

Your guide on where to train, play and take your game to the next level.

BRADENTON AREA INFORMATION

ATTRACTIONS

The Bradenton Area offers a diverse array of dining options. Whether a night out with the team, or a serious executive power lunch, you'll find intriguing culinary options in a league of their own.

If your team likes to play as hard as they train, then they'll love the number of entertaining activities throughout the area. From golf and fishing to a vibrant arts and culture scene, there are plenty of ways to clear your head or blow off some steam.

With everything from regional outlet malls like Ellenton Premium Outlets to quaint antique districts like Pine Avenue on Anna Maria Island, the Bradenton Area thrills visitors and locals alike with truly unique shopping experiences.

Both residents and visitors know that the Bradenton Area's central location and easy access allow it to serve as the perfect "home base" to see and experience the rest of Florida. Theme parks such as Busch Gardens or Adventure Island are only a short drive away, and Orlando is close enough to take a quick trip to Disney World or Universal Studios at any time.

TRANSPORTATION

Getting to and from the Bradenton Area is easy thanks to the nearby Sarasota Bradenton International Airport (SRQ) providing non-stop, year-round service. Additionally, a number of major Florida cities are within driving distance.

<p>BY AIR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delta • JetBlue • American • United • Elite • Air Canada • West Jet 	<p>BY LAND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allegiant • Frontier • Sun County Airlines • Southwest • All Major Airlines at TPA
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- Tampa - 47 minutes, 46 miles
- Orlando - 1 hour 47 minutes - 116 miles
- Miami - 3 hours 34 minutes - 242 miles

LODGING

The Bradenton Area is prepared to host a group or team of almost any size, as well as multiple teams, with a variety of accommodation types and styles to fit a range of budgets.

BRADENTON AREA CONVENTION CENTER:

- Springhill Suites by Marriott - 2 miles | (941) 226-2200 | 102 12th St. W., Bradenton
- Courtyard Riverfront Bradenton - 2 miles | (941) 747-3727 | 100 Riverfront Dr. W., Bradenton
- Hampton Inn - Bradenton Downtown - 2 miles | (941) 746-9400 | 309 10th St. W., Bradenton
- Super 8 Ellenton Bradenton Area - 4 miles | (941) 729-8505 | 5218 17th St. E., Ellenton
- Hampton Inn – Ellenton - 4 miles | (941) 721-4000 | 5810 20th Court E., Ellenton
- Best Western - Cortez Road - 5 miles | (800) 780-7234 | 2215 Cortez Road W., Bradenton
- Shorewalk Vacation Villas - 6 miles | (941) 794-9800 | 4601 46th St. Court W., Bradenton
- Holiday Inn Express (Cortez Road) - 6 miles | (941) 795-4633 | 4450 47th St. W., Bradenton

ELLENTON ICE AND SPORTS COMPLEX:

- Hampton Inn – Ellenton - 1 mile | (941) 721-4000 | 5810 20th Court E., Ellenton
- Ramada Ltd. – Ellenton - 1 mile | (941) 729-8505 | 5218 17th St. E., Ellenton
- Courtyard Riverfront Bradenton - 6 miles | (941) 747-3727 | 100 Riverfront Dr. W., Bradenton
- Days Inn Historic Bradenton - 7 miles | (941) 746-1141 | 3506 1st Street W., Bradenton
- Best Western - SR 64 - 9 miles | (941) 757-5555 | 648 67th St. Circle E., Bradenton

G.T. BRAY RECREATION COMPLEX:

- Best Western - Cortez Road - 3 miles | (800) 780-7234 | 2215 Cortez Road W., Bradenton
- Holiday Inn Express (Cortez Road) - 3 miles | (941) 795-4633 | 4450 47th St. W., Bradenton

Hilton Garden Inn - 8 miles | (941) 552-1100 | 8270 N Tamiami Trl., Sarasota

Comfort Inn - 10 miles | (941) 747-7500 | 580 66th St. Ct. E., Bradenton

IMG ACADEMY:

IMG Academy Hotel - 0 miles | (866) 300-4538 | 5650 Bollettieri Blvd. Bradenton

TownePlace Suites by Marriott - 2 miles | (941) 782-9992 | 5451 Cortez Rd. W., Bradenton

Holiday Inn Express (Cortez Road) - 3 miles | (941) 795-4633 | 4450 47th St. W., Bradenton

Hilton Garden Inn - 4 miles | (941) 552-1100 | 8270 N Tamiami Trl., Sarasota

Hampton Inn Downtown Bradenton - 5 miles | (941) 746-9400 | 309 10th St. W., Bradenton

Courtyard by Marriott Airport - 5 miles | (941) 355-3337 | 850 University Pkwy., Sarasota

Compass Hotel Anna Maria Sound - 8 miles | (941) 741-9700 | 12324 Manatee Ave. W., Bradenton

Zota Beach Resort - 13 miles | (941) 383-2451 | 4711 Gulf of Mexico Dr., Longboat Key

PREMIER SPORTS CAMPUS:

Country Inn & Suites Bradenton - 5 miles | (941) 363-4000 | 5610 Manor Hill Lane, Bradenton

Hyatt Place - 6 Miles | (941) 748-3100 | 6201 Exchange Way, Lakewood Ranch

Even Hotel - 7 Miles | (941) 782-4400 | 6231 Lake Osprey Dr., Sarasota

Fairfield Inn & Suites - 7 Miles | (941) 522-4000 | 6105 Exchange Way, Bradenton

Courtyard by Marriott - University - 9 miles | (941) 360-2626 | 8305 Tourist Center Dr., Bradenton

Hampton Inn - University - 9 miles | (941) 355-8619 | 8565 Cooper Creek Blvd., Bradenton

Holiday Inn Lakewood Ranch - 9 miles | (941) 782-4400 | 6231 Lake Osprey Drive, Sarasota

MANATEE COUNTY SPORTS COMPLEXES

The Bradenton Area offers a number of pristine, landscaped parks to host sporting events. From swimming to baseball, the parks in the Bradenton Area have top-notch facilities designed to accommodate large crowds and host multiple teams or events at once.

SPORTS:

- Soccer
- Baseball
- Softball
- Lacrosse
- Tennis
- Basketball
- Swimming

PARKING:

- Parking available on site

HOSTED EVENTS:

- Sticks Up Lacrosse
- USSSA Tournaments
- Suncoast Travel Ball

CONTACT:

Bradenton Area Sports

One Haben Blvd.

Palmetto, FL 34221

941-729-9177

LAKEWOOD RANCH PARK

FACILITY:

- 2 Big League Baseball Fields
- 4 Little League Baseball Fields
- 2 T-Ball Fields
- 4 Softball Fields
- 7 Soccer Fields
- 1 Football Field
- 3 Basketball Courts
- 2 Multi-Purpose Fields
- Restrooms
- 5 Pickleball Courts
- Hockey Rink (Outdoor)
- Pavilion

BUFFALO CREEK PARK

FACILITY:

- 1 Big League Baseball Field
- 4 Little League Baseball Fields
- 2 Soccer Fields
- 1 Football Field
- Batting Cages
- Paved Multi-Purpose Trail
- Canine Park
- Playground
- Restrooms

G.T. BRAY RECREATION COMPLEX

FACILITY:

- 1 Regulation Baseball Field
- 3 Little League Baseball Fields
- 4 Softball Fields
- 5 Soccer Fields
- 1 Football Field
- 1 Multi-Purpose Field
- 1 Basketball Court
- 8 Clay Tennis Courts
- 7 Hard Tennis Courts
- 8 Outdoor Pickleball Courts
- 4 Indoor Pickleball Courts
- Skatepark
- 8 Racquetball Courts
- 6 Lane, 50-Meter Olympic-Size Pool (Heated to 80°F in Winter)
- 1 Kiddie Pool
- Disc Golf Course
- Canine Park
- Pavilions
- Fitness Center
- Locker Rooms with Shower Facilities
- Production, PA and Internet Capabilities
- Restrooms

BRADEN RIVER PARK

FACILITY:

- 2 Big League Baseball Fields
- 5 Little League Baseball Fields
- 3 Soccer Fields
- Batting Cages
- Canoe/Kayak Launch
- Bleachers

- Playground (Covered)
- Restrooms

BLACKSTONE PARK

FACILITY:

- 3 Little League Baseball Fields
- 3 Softball Fields
- 3 Regulation Soccer Fields
- 2 Racquetball Courts
- Skate Park
- Canine Park
- Pavilions
- Playground
- Restrooms

PALMA SOLA PARK

FACILITY:

- 1 Big League Baseball Field
- 3 Softball Fields
- 1 Football Field
- Pavilion
- Playground
- Restrooms

PREMIER SPORTS CAMPUS

AT LAKEWOOD RANCH

The Premier Sports Campus, with 23 multi-purpose FIFA regulation fields (eight lighted), and more than 140 acres, can support a variety of field-related events. Underground field irrigation allows for efficient water drainage and improves time-out weather management. The campus is available to host local, state, regional and national level events.

SPORTS:

- Football
- Lacrosse
- Archery
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Field Hockey
- Soccer
- Rugby

FACILITY:

- 140 acre campus
- 23 FIFA regulation fields
- 3,000 seat, lighted stadium
- Concessions
- Portable restrooms throughout the campus

PARKING:

- Easy-to-use onsite parking
- 1,000 parking spaces
- Professional parking available

TECH CAPABILITIES:

- Production, PA and internet capabilities

HOSTED EVENTS:

- Special Olympics
- U.S. Soccer
- NIKE International Friendlies
- US Soccer Winter Showcase
- US Soccer Training Camps
- USA Field Hockey
- FYSA
- Australian Rules Football
- Luis Figo IVP European Showcase
- USA Ultimate Frisbee Club Championships
- Chargers Labor Day National Showcase
- US Youth Soccer
- National Championships

CONTACT:

Premier Sports Campus
at Lakewood Ranch
5895 Post Blvd.
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211
PremierSportsCampus.com
941-757-1582

IMG ACADEMY

IMG Academy annually attracts nearly 200,000 athletes, coaches and spectators from 100 countries. In addition to its boarding preparatory school, IMG offers high-level training programs and hosts tournaments for amateur, collegiate and professional athletes and teams. Experience the benefit of state-of-the-art facilities and an entire staff dedicated to improving the skill level of athletes across a spectrum of different sports.

FACILITY

- 500 acre campus
- 5,000 seat stadium with hospitality suites and press box
- 8-lane, 400m track and field area
- 52 tennis courts (indoor, outdoor and clay)
- 5 full-size baseball fields, 4 practice fields and stadium
- 18-hole golf course
- 4 indoor basketball courts
- 20+ multipurpose fields
- College preparatory academy
- Goalkeeper training area
- Indoor and outdoor batting cages
- Multiple bullpens and practice mounds
- ProBatter PX2 professional pitching machine
- 10,000-square-foot weight room
- Gatorade Sports Science Institute
- Bollettieri Tennis Program
- Covered turf facility
- Game strategy/film rooms
- Biomechanical analysis and film rooms
- Swing analysis rooms complete with V1 Pro video systems
- Conference/meeting rooms
- Sports Therapy Center
- Health clinic
- State-of-the-art residence hall
- Multiple dining halls
- Wellness spa
- 150-room boutique hotel

PARKING:

- 1,500 permanent parking spots campus-wide

TECH CAPABILITIES:

- Production, PA and internet capabilities

SPORTS:

- Football
- Track
- Soccer
- Lacrosse
- Tennis
- Baseball
- Golf
- Basketball

HOSTED EVENTS:

- Major League Soccer Training Camp
- United Soccer League Super Y North American Finals
- National Football Combine Training
- Olympic Development Program Camp
- US U-17 Men's National Team Training
- NCAA D2 Track and Field Championships
- IMG National Baseball Classic
- AYF All Star Game
- NFA 7v7 National Championship
- Suncoast Pro Soccer Classic
- FHSAA Track Championship
- Beach Blast Basketball Tournament
- Eddie Herr Tennis Championship
- Varsity Cheer Camp
- US Lacrosse Spring Premiere
- IMG Nationals – Lacrosse & IMG Cup

CONTACT:

IMG Academy
5500 34th St. W.
Bradenton, FL 34210
IMGacademy.com
800-872-6425

ELLENTON ICE AND SPORTS COMPLEX

The 115,000-square-foot, “igloo-like” complex is a state-of-the-art facility on the Florida Gulf Coast offering recreational and entertainment activities for all ages. The complex features two NHL-regulation ice rinks, a 13,500-square-foot indoor soccer/ball hockey/lacrosse floor and a fitness center.

<p>SPORTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Figure Skating• Indoor Hockey• Indoor Roller and Ball Hockey• Indoor Lacrosse• Broomball• CrossFit• Dance <p>FACILITY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 NHL-regulation ice rinks• 13,500-square-foot indoor multi-use space• Fitness center• Locker rooms• Party/conference/meeting room• Massage therapy• Ballet room and studio• Edge hockey pro shop• In-house sports bar <p>PARKING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over 500 parking spaces <p>TECH CAPABILITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Production, PA and internet capabilities	<p>HOSTED EVENTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 Olympic figure skating teams• Southwest Florida Figure Skating Club• Manasota Youth Travel Hockey (MYTH, Gulf Coast Flames)• Tampa Lightning AAA• Florida Sunshine State Games• Women’s National Hockey Championships• Annual Fall Classic Figure Skating Competition presented by Southwest Florida Figure Skating Club <p>CONTACT:</p> <p>Ellenton Ice and Sports Complex 5309 29th St. E. Ellenton, FL 34222 EllentonIce.com 941-723-3663</p>
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BRADENTON AREA CONVENTION CENTER

Located on the scenic Manatee River, this flexible full-service facility has the space and the staff necessary to make your event an overwhelming success. An ideal location for any indoor sporting event, the Bradenton Area Convention Center has a professional and friendly staff that is ready to assist you in planning and overseeing your function.

SPORTS:

- Cheerleading
- Gymnastics
- Pickleball
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Boxing
- Muai Thai
- Table Tennis
- Badminton
- Wrestling

FACILITY:

- 60,000-square-foot facility
- 34,000-square-foot arena
- 4,000 seating capacity
- 7 conference rooms
- 2 full-service concessions
- Dressing rooms
- Large lobby area

PARKING:

- Parking available on site

TECH CAPABILITIES:

HOSTED EVENTS:

- NJCAA State Volleyball Championship
- Bridge Tournament
- Tampa Bay Turners
- Florida Elite Cheer Competition
- Harlem Globetrotters
- Arena Football
- DII NCAA Tournaments
- Diamond D Rodeo

CONTACT:

Bradenton Area Convention Center
One Haben Blvd.
Palmetto, FL 34221
BradentonAreaSports.com
941-729-9177

• Production, PA and internet capabilities	
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COQUINA AND MANATEE BEACHES

Clear water and 15 miles of beautiful, white sand beaches combine to create some of the best backdrops during your sporting event. The beaches in the Bradenton, Anna Maria Island and Longboat Key area are a great place to host your next tournament and training.

SPORTS:

- Volleyball
- Soccer
- Rugby

FACILITY:

- 15 miles of sugar-white sand beaches
- Manatee Beach
- Coquina Beach
- Concessions
- Changing Stations
- Ample parking

TECH CAPABILITIES:

- Production, PA and internet capabilities

HOSTED EVENTS:

- Major Beach Soccer
- EVP Volleyball Tour
- Beach Bums Volleyball
- Beach Volleyball Training
- World's Strongest Man
- Salt Series: AMI Hogfish Swim

CONTACT:

Bradenton Area Sports Commission One Haben Blvd.

Palmetto, FL 34221

BradentonAreaSportsCommission.com

941-729-9177 x 3951

Sean Walter, Director of Sports

STATE COLLEGE OF FLORIDA

Home of the Manatees, the State College of Florida campus in Bradenton offers a number of facilities and accommodations to host a variety of sporting events. The Robert C. Wynn Baseball Field was the only college or university field to receive the prestigious American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) TURFACE Field Maintenance Award.

SPORTS:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Softball
- Tennis
- Volleyball

FACILITY:

- Hal Chasey Gymnasium seats 900 spectators
- 6 hard surface tennis courts with California corners
- Regulation softball field seats 200
- Stadiums with press box
- Padded bleachers
- Wind screens
- Bullpen and dugouts
- Concession stand

PARKING:

- Paved and lit parking available at all venues
- Campus security on site 24/7

TECH CAPABILITIES:

- Scoreboard and PA at all venues
- Internet available at Hal Chasey Gymnasium

HOSTED EVENTS:

- IMG Academy Basketball Camps
- IMG Collegiate Baseball Camps
- Suncoast Conference Basketball Tournament
- FHSAA District Tennis Tournament
- FHSAA District Softball Tournament
- SCF Classic Basketball Tournament
- Travel and Prep School Baseball games
- Venezuelan National Basketball Team
- FHSAA Basketball

CONTACT:

State College of Florida
5840 26th St. W.
Bradenton, FL 34207
941-752-5000

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PIRATE CITY

Train where the pros train and take your team's game to the next level. The Pittsburgh Pirates conduct their spring training in Bradenton at LECOM Park, and Pirate City is their state-of-the-art training facility near the stadium. You'll walk on 100% Bermuda grass among four fields in a cloverleaf design. Spectators can watch from a common area in the middle and entry to the fields can be secured for ticket sales purposes.

FACILITY:

- 4 baseball fields including 1 artificial turf field
- 1 half field & 1 utility field with 2 infields
- 6 indoor batting cages
- Bullpen mounds
- Dining hall and onsite catering
- Dorm facilities with private baths, HDTV, Wi-Fi, laundry services, as well as overnight suites
- Separate team, umpire and coach locker rooms
- Training and weight rooms
- Conference/meeting rooms

TECH CAPABILITIES:

- PA system at primary quad of fields
- Scoreboard on one field in the quad
- Wi-Fi available in dorm, dining hall, and clubhouse
- A/V equipment available in conference/meeting rooms, dining hall, and clubhouse

CONTACT:

Pirate City

1701 27th St. E.

Bradenton, FL 34208

<http://www.pirates.com/piratecity>

941-747-3031

LECOM PARK

For almost a century, LECOM Park, formerly McKechnie Field, has been a source of fun and excitement in Bradenton. This 8,500+ person, state-of-the-art stadium is perfect for baseball training and tournaments. A 19,000-square-foot boardwalk spanning the outfield provides an exceptional experience for both athletes and fans.

FACILITY:

- 7,500 seat stadium (1,000 capacity of standing room)
- 8 bullpen mounds
- 4 batting cages
- Clubhouse including a locker room, coaches' room and kitchen
- Umpires' locker room
- 1 practice field and 1 agility field
- Small meeting room
- Press box for up to 20 people
- Two 20 person suites for events or rentals
- Parking available on and off site nearby

TECH CAPABILITIES:

- Sound system, wireless microphone, Wi-Fi and HD Video board
- Separate scoreboard
- 5 pre-built positions for radio and TV broadcasts

CONTACT:

LECOM Park

1611 9th St. W.

Bradenton, FL 34205

<http://www.bradentonmarauders.com/>

941-747-3031

ANDERSEN RACEPARK

Andersen RacePark is a go-kart and small-formula car facility that offers “arrive and drive” and professional driver development services. The racetrack sits on 18 landscaped acres and features a test track and opportunities for Indy car, stock car and drag racing.

SPORTS:

- Go-kart Racing
- Small Formula Car Racing
- Professional Open-wheel Cart Racing

FACILITY:

- 6/10 mile kart track
- 1 mile test track
- 22 garages on pit lane
- Leased pit land garages
- 8,000-square-foot kart shop
- Arrive and drive rental karts
- Lapping sessions
- Driver clinics and training
- Karting challenges
- Sunday showdowns
- Enduro challenges
- Testing programs
- Full-service karting store
- Birel ART kart sales and service

TECH CAPABILITIES:

- Production, PA and internet capabilities

HOSTED EVENTS:

- USF2000 National Championship
- Star Mazda
- Firestone Indy Lights

CONTACT:

Andersen RacePark

10101 U.S. 41 North

Palmetto, FL 34221

AndersenRacePark.com

941-723-3900

BRADENTON MOTORSPORTS PARK

This is a great facility for 1/8 mile and 1/4 mile drag racing and testing. They provide grudge racing, car shows, swap meets, club track days, heads-up drag racing and bracket racing. A perfect place for competitors and fans to receive their adrenaline rush.

SPORTS:

- Drag Racing
- Stock Car Racing
- Dirt Bike Racing

PARKING:

- Spectator & overnight pit parking during events (no hookups)

TECH CAPABILITIES:

- Track radio: 95.3FM

FACILITY:

- ¼ mile drag strip
- Starting tower with VIP section
- Over 100 acre facility
- 5,000 plus seating
- Fuel, compressed air and water available
- Racing fuels, alcohol and higher octane nitrous fuel available
- Concessions/restrooms

HOSTED EVENTS:

- Cleetus & Cars
- FixxFest
- FL2K
- Fun In The Sun Championship Bracket Racing
- Heads-Up Madness Race Series
- Import Face-Off
- Jet Jam Night of Fire
- NHRA Summit Bracket Racing Series
- NMCA
- NMRA
- Outlaw Drag Racing Championship
- Snowbird Outlaw Nationals
- U.S. Street Nationals

CONTACT:

Bradenton Motorsports Park
21000 SR. 64
Bradenton, FL 34212
BradentonMotorsports.com
941-748-1320

FORT HAMER ROWING FACILITY

Located in the Bradenton Area, right off the Manatee River, the Fort Hamer Rowing Facility helps turn athletes into serious contenders. With an 8,500-square-foot four-bay boathouse and 15 miles (one-way) of rowable water surrounded by the natural, serene beauty of the outdoors, there is no better place for teams of any size to train.

SPORTS:

- Rowing
- Canoeing
- Kayaking
- Paddleboarding

FACILITY:

- 8,000-square-foot 4-bay boat house
- 15 miles (one-way) of rowable water
- Low-profile docks
- Cleaning stations
- Large team exercise area
- Restrooms and changing facilities
- Parking available on site

TECH CAPABILITIES:

- Production, PA and internet capabilities

HOSTED EVENTS:

- Sunshine State Games
- DI and DII collegiate athlete training
- Training home to multiple Ivy league colleges
- 2017 World Rowing Championship training

CONTACT:

Fort Hamer Rowing Facility
1605 Ft. Hamer Road
Parrish, FL 34219

WorldClassRowing.com

941-358-7275

TERRANOVA EQUESTRIAN CENTER

A world-class multi-discipline equestrian competition facility in Manatee County, near Bradenton and Sarasota. Set on one of Southwest Florida's most picturesque properties, TerraNova provides a beautiful backdrop for all levels of a range of equestrian disciplines, from top international to national and regional competition in a relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere with spectacular amenities.

FACILITY:

- Custom cross-country footing, drainage and irrigation
- Six gold-standard all-weather arenas
- Sprawling 300 x 420 main arena
- Two 200 x 300 arenas
- A 175 x 300 arena
- A 175 x 250 arena
- A 175 x 600 arena
- The TerraNova Cross-country course
- Expansive cross-country schooling area
- A 225-acre facility
- Four-acre lake servicing innovative drainage and irrigation systems
- Raised areas for spectator viewing
- VIP hospitality and vendor area
- TourTech sound system plan
- Adjacent to TerraNova Estates development
- Walking distance to clubhouse
- Only 25 minutes to dining, shopping and hotel

CONTACT:

TerraNova Equestrian Center
31625 Clay Gully Rd
Myakka City, FL 34251
TerraNovaEquestrian.com
941-737-5518

FREEDOM FACTORY

The facility was constructed in the early 1970's and includes a 3/8-mile paved oval with 12 degree banking through the turns. Major upgrades and improvements were completed in 2021, making the Freedom Factory a premier multifaceted entertainment venue. With seating for 5,000, the fans are able to see the entire infield of the facility. Fans will enjoy the entire Freedom Factory entertainment experience, including great food and a clean facility.

FACILITY:

- 60-foot wide, 3/8-mile oval asphalt track
- Grandstands with seating for up to 5,000 fans
- Concessions open at all events
- Restrooms

CONTACT:

Freedom Factory
21050 SR. 64 E
Bradenton, FL 34212
events@FFFL.com