



PRESS RELEASE
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CENTER ICE FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES THE FORMATION OF 256 ATHLETICS TO SUPPORT THE GROWTH OF YOUTH SPORTS ALONG THE 256 CORRIDOR

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Center Ice Foundation is excited to announce the formation of 256 Athletics, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the growth of youth athletics in our community.

Beginning with the 2022 tournament season, 256 Athletics will roster two (2) youth club lacrosse teams, at the U10 and U12 levels, comprised of youth athletes from Pickerington, Bexley, St. Matthew, St. Pius, Berne Union, Columbus Academy, and Reynoldsburg. The US Lacrosse-sanctioned teams intend to play in 3 tournaments during Summer, 2022: the Ohio Cup (Columbus, OH), King of Queens (Lebanon, OH), and the Niagara Lacrosse Classic (Youngstown, NY).

The coaching staff includes veteran coaches Garyck Todd (U12 HC), Tyler Faig (U12 AC), Jeff Moore (U10 HC), and Max Schillig (U10 AC). Collectively, the group has over 2 decades of coaching experience at the youth, high school, and collegiate levels.

“Our mission has always been about expanding access to the ‘underserved’ youth sports, and our vision has always been about more than ice. When 256 approached us about a potential partnership, the fit absolutely made sense, and we couldn’t be more excited to expand our outreach into the lacrosse community. Creating opportunities for young people to play the sport{s} they love is what inspires us, and we are humbled to have the opportunity to partner with such a fantastic organization. And this is just the beginning: our future is bright, and we look forward to sharing some exciting updates in the coming months,” said Bob McElheney, EVP of Operations for the Center Ice Foundation.

256 Athletics President Rob Adams, “We are extremely fortunate to work with the Center Ice Foundation. This partnership allowed us to attain our goal of bringing a geographically and financially accessible summer lacrosse option to the southeast side of Columbus. Along with Treasurer, Michele Reinig, and Secretary Andre Friederich, our talented coaching staff and I look forward to continuing to provide opportunities to young athletes in our community.”

Formed in 2018, the Center Ice Foundation (www.centericefoundationOH.org) is a 501c3, dedicated to expanding access to sports through the construction of an ice-centric, multi-sport facility in the Southeast Corridor of Central Ohio. The organization continues to pursue an aggressive fundraising strategy and capital campaign.

For more information about the Center Ice Foundation, or to get involved, visit www.centericefoundationOH.org.