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Contact: Andy Klotz (317) 927-7577 ofc.  
(317) 372-1277 cell  
[aklotz@indianastatefair.com](mailto:aklotz@indianastatefair.com)

## **Public skating returns to State Fairgrounds with free open skate Oct. 5**

*Regular skating sessions begin Oct. 7*

INDIANAPOLIS – Ice skating returns to the Indiana State Fairgrounds for the first time in 17 months with a free public skating session in the new Youth Arena Saturday, Oct. 5 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Rental skates will also be available for free on a first come, first served basis. This will mark the first skating event to take place in the \$10 million facility that opened in August during the [Indiana State Fair](#).

“This is like a second ‘Grand Opening’ for the Youth Arena, and we want to provide an opportunity for the whole city to come see it and enjoy this wonderful new ice surface,” State Fairgrounds Executive Director Cindy Hoyer said. “This is where we will host all our skating and hockey activities until the Coliseum is reopened next year.”

The Coliseum, originally built in 1939, is in the middle of a \$63 million renovation, which includes the creation of the Youth Arena. Once the Coliseum reopens in 2014, the fairgrounds will have two rinks to accommodate public skating, youth hockey tournaments and many other events. More information on the Coliseum renovation is available at [bit.ly/15WZNPI](http://bit.ly/15WZNPI).

Public skating sessions officially begin Monday, Oct. 7. Admission will be \$6 for skaters 4 years of age and older; children 3 and younger skate free. Figure skates may be rented for \$4; hockey skates are available for \$5. Regular skating hours will be:

Monday – Thursday: 3 to 5 p.m.

Fridays: 3 to 5 p.m. and 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Saturdays: 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Sundays: 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The Youth Arena includes a Skate Shop with a variety of hockey and skating equipment available for purchase as well as uniform services for entire teams. Skate sharpening is also available. Skate Shop hours of operation are:

Monday – Friday: 2 to 8 p.m.

Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Sundays: 2 to 7 p.m.

Registration is now open for the 2013-2014 youth hockey season. For more information, call the Skate Shop at (317) 927-7622 or visit [Hockey Starts Here](#).

#### **About Indiana State Fairgrounds**

*Established in 1892, the Indiana State Fairgrounds is a modern public event facility that annually hosts more than 300 meetings, shows, sports and agriculture events, including the Indiana State Fair. The Indiana State Fairgrounds is one of Indiana's top tourist destinations annually attracting 2 million visitors to its 250-acre campus in Indianapolis' Midtown district and adding \$124 million to the local economy. Its signature building, the Coliseum, is currently part of a \$63 million renovation project and will reopen in 2014. Agriculture and food production education are part of the fairgrounds' core values. The nine-member Indiana State Fair Commission, a quasi-governmental agency, oversees year-round management of the fairgrounds, which operates in a safe and fiscally conscious manner for the benefit of all citizens of Indiana. Additional information is available at [www.indianastatefair.com](http://www.indianastatefair.com).*

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