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News Release

CARY, NC: Hill Carrow, CEO of Sports & Properties, Inc. (SPI) of Raleigh, NC, was recently recognized at the Grand Opening of the USA Baseball National Training Center in Cary, North Carolina, for his leadership role in recruiting USA Baseball and its National Headquarters and Training Center to the Triangle.

The Triangle prevailed over the finalist cities of Atlanta, Orlando, West Palm Beach, and the Cal Ripken complex in Aberdeen, MD (outside Baltimore). Carrow was able to secure over \$13 million in local funding and sponsorships for USA Baseball in support of the Triangle's bid for the organization's national headquarters and training center.

Located at Thomas Brooks Park in Cary, North Carolina, the \$11 million USA Baseball National Training Center is a four-field complex featuring a 1,500-seat stadium and three additional fields with 200 permanent seats each. All fields have berms extending into the outfield area so grass seating allows the fields to accommodate literally thousands of additional spectators for major events. The complex is a Town of Cary venue that hosts community leagues and events throughout the school year, and USA baseball's premier events and team selections and training during the summer months.

The Town of Cary and USA Baseball worked together on the design of the complex. Hosting events throughout the year, the USA Baseball National Training Center is also the focal point of USA Baseball's educational and evaluation initiatives, and recently served as host facility for the Tournament of

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Stars – a yearly event featuring the top 144 high school baseball players in the country that determines the Junior National Team, as well as US vs. Norway and US vs. Russia international games.

“It was an honor to be recognized by Paul Seiler, USAB’s CEO, but it was a major team effort involving many volunteers and organizations that supported our bid,” said Carrow. “Now the region will begin to see the major economic impacts that this state-of-the-art venue will produce. The fact that the #2-ranked University of North Carolina Tar Heels will play their entire 2008 home baseball season there means the USAB National Training Center is already paying major dividends.”

About USA Baseball: USA Baseball is the National Governing Body for the sport and represents baseball in America as a member of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and the International Baseball Federation (IBAF). USA Baseball is responsible for promoting and developing the game of baseball on the grassroots level, both nationally and internationally. As the commissioner’s office for amateur baseball, USA Baseball is a resource center for its various membership groups, fans, and players. Virtually every major national amateur baseball organization in America is united as a USA Baseball National Member. As a result, USA Baseball governs more than 12 million amateur players in ballparks and playgrounds throughout the country.

About Sports & Properties, Inc.: Sports & Properties, Inc. is a sports and entertainment marketing and development firm located in Raleigh, NC. The company consults with cities and community organizations on sports and entertainment economic development projects including recent projects in Augusta, GA, Winston-Salem, NC, Fairfax County, VA, and Grand Rapids, MI, among others, and represents major corporate clients such as Capitol Broadcasting Company, RBC Centura Bank, and Progress Energy. SPI is also a specialist and innovator in naming rights sponsorships with projects currently underway for Wake Forest University, the City of Durham, and the Carolina Crossroads Music & Entertainment District in Roanoke Rapids. For more information, visit www.sportsproperties.com.