

FOOTBALL UNIVERSITY RETURNS TO NAPLES FOR THE 2017 FBU NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP DECEMBER 17-21, 2017

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Naples, Fla. (July 6, 2017) – All American Games' Football University brings an expanded version of its FBU National Championship series back to Naples December 17-21 with 42 youth teams playing 61 games on local fields. Over 5,000 athletes, coaches and family members – double the number from last year – are expected to arrive December 17 and stay through the week, which will likely increase or double last year's economic impact of \$2.1 million.

This year's event adds a ninth-grade all-star game along with invitational National Championship games for age nine-and-under and age 10-and-under teams.

"The FBU National Championship is a great fit for our destination and we're honored to serve as host for the fourth year," said Jack Wert, executive director of the Naples, Marco Island, Everglades Convention & Visitors Bureau. "We heard from the players and families that they thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality shown by our community last year and many said they would like to return for a future vacation. Players said they would compete even harder just to be able to return to Naples for this year's FBU National Championship."

The "Path to Naples" begins in mid-November with qualifying games in 16 regions of the United States featuring all-star football players in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. The winners of each regional competition are seeded into the FBU National Championship tournament here. The 2016 games were watched by over 100,000 unique viewers who tuned into national webcasts.

The 61 games will be played from December 18 through 21 at Fleischmann Park, Community School of Naples, and at Golden Gate, Barron Collier, Naples and Gulf Coast High Schools.

The three final championship games are scheduled to be played at Gulf Coast High School on December 21. The 6th grade national championship kicks off at 3 p.m.; the 7th grade national championship at 5:30 p.m.; and the 8th grade national championship at 8 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend to watch some very exciting youth football. Games are scheduled to be available for viewing by live webcast.

The FBU National Championship gives players a chance to play on a national stage and it is increasingly drawing the attention of high school and college coaches.

"We could not be happier with the success of the FBU National Championship in Naples last year," said Steve Quinn, vice president of player development at All American Games and FBU. "We expect the event to double in size this year. We're going to try to make it an even better family experience, showcasing all that Collier County has to offer, not just the football," Quinn added.

After last year's successful FBU National Championship, the Naples area received additional promotion through television advertising during the US Army All American Bowl in San Antonio, Texas on Saturday, January 8. This will be repeated in the next nationally televised game on January 6, 2018. Last year's two 30-second commercials during the bowl telecast showcased Florida's Paradise Coast to 5 million viewers.

Details on the 2017 FBU National Championship event can be found at www.fbunc.com.

About All American Games

All American Games is a New Jersey-based sports marketing and event company. AAG owns and produces elite national youth and prep sporting events and properties, including the U.S. Army All-American Bowl, Football University, FBU National Championship, and the FBU Top Gun Showcase.

About Naples, Marco Island, Everglades Convention and Visitors Bureau

The Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) is the official tourism marketing and management agency for Collier County, Florida, known as [Florida's Paradise Coast](http://www.paradisecoast.com). The CVB provides information and assistance for sports event organizers, group conference and meeting planners, travel journalists, tour operators and travel agents; hosts the destination's website paradisecoast.com, and creates annual marketing programs for the destination. The CVB and its promotional efforts are funded entirely by the Collier County tourist development tax collected by hotels, short term vacation rentals and campgrounds. No local property taxes are used to fund the CVB or its marketing campaigns and tourism industry activities. For more information on sports tourism marketing call (239) 252-5703. Find more about the destination's sports marketing activities at www.paradisecoast.com/sports.