

Contact: Candace I. Davis, 423.424.4430
Chattanooga Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
candaced@chattanoogaacvb.com



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Greater Chattanooga Sports and Events Committee Hires New Director of Operations

CHATTANOOGA, TN (June 29, 2009) – The Greater Chattanooga Sports and Events Committee has hired Ben Austin as their new Director of Operations. He will join the GCSEC staff on July 1, 2009.

Austin graduated from Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC where he earned a bachelor's degree in business economics. He was a three-time member of the Southern Conference Academic Honor Roll and was selected to serve on Wofford's baseball head coach search committee in 2007. As a student, Austin worked as an assistant in the Wofford Athletic Media Relations department.

Most recently at the Southern Conference as an external affairs assistant, Austin was involved in planning and logistics for all 18 of the Conference-sponsored championships. He also served as championship director for the 2009 Southern Conference Men's Golf Championship and as assistant championship director for the 2009 Coastal Collegiate Swimming Association Championship.

"We are very excited about Ben joining our staff. His intelligence, talent and energy, mixed with his experience, makes him a great addition to our team," said Scott Smith, President of the Greater Chattanooga Sports and Events Committee. "We worked with Ben on three events (NCAA Division I Football Championship, Southern Conference Men's & Women's Basketball Championships, and the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championships) and were impressed each time. I am also personally excited to give a young man a start to his career as the Sports Committee did for me 12 years ago."

Austin will report to the GCSEC President and his primary responsibility will be managing regional and national events that result in room nights and economic impact for the community. Other duties include volunteer coordination; liaison between regional/national organizations; assisting in bids and research and development of new events.

Austin has already relocated to downtown Chattanooga from Spartanburg, SC.



Ben Austin, new Director of Operations at the GCSEC

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