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M. SCOTT SMITH NAMED NEW PRESIDENT OF THE GREATER CHATTANOOGA SPORTS & EVENTS COMMITTEE

Chattanooga, TN (March 31, 2009) – M. Scott Smith was named the new President of the Greater Chattanooga Sports & Events Committee at a media conference held earlier today. He will officially start this new position on April 20, 2009.

Smith served an internship at the Sports Committee in 1996 while he was a student at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. He was then hired as the Director of Communications in 1997 after completing graduate school at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Smith was later promoted to Director of Operations in August 1998 and named the NCAA Division I Football Championship Event Director and was then promoted as Vice President in July 2000.



Smith currently serves as the Secretary for the Classic 150 Board of Directors and is the President of the Chattanooga Quarterback Club.

“We’re thrilled to promote Scott as the new President of the Sports Committee. He was a clear choice for this position, based on his 12 years of dedication, enthusiasm, diligence and experience in the sports industry. Since Scott started at the Sports Committee, he has helped increase sporting events to Chattanooga which have generated an estimated economic impact of \$19.5 million annually,” said Bob Doak, President & CEO of the Chattanooga Area Convention & Visitors Bureau. “We look forward to continuing our relationship with the Sports Committee and helping them bring great events to Chattanooga.”

Ready for the transition, Smith has already set some initiatives as President. He wants to better enhance the relationships with current members and partners. He also plans to continue to build relationships with sports organizations like the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga’s Athletics Department; National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA); Amateur Softball Association (ASA); National Softball Association (NSA); Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) in bringing events to Chattanooga.

Smith said, “I’m very excited for this opportunity to head up the Sports Committee. I am obviously committed to this organization and this has been the perfect job for me. Coming to work is fun and I get to sell a city that I believe in. I’ve seen Chattanooga grow tremendously over the past 15 years and it’s exciting to be part of this growth. I’m looking forward to continuing to bring visitors to our city so that we can show it off.”

Smith received his Sports Administration undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 1996 and his Sports Studies graduate degree from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1997. Smith was in the top of his class for both degrees and graduated Cum Laude and Summa Cum Laude respectively. While enrolled at UTC, he served internships with the UTC Media Relations Office and the Chattanooga Sports Committee. As a student at UTK, he completed internships for the Knoxville Cherokees Hockey Team and the Knoxville Sports Corporation.

“This transition period is going to be quick and seamless because Scott is definitely prepared to step in as president. He knows and understands all of the partners with whom the Sports Committee works – both inside and outside of the community. He has established himself as a savvy event recruiter, and he understands exactly what kind of support events need when they hit the ground here. We are confident that Scott is going to continue the committee’s strong legacy, and I look forward to working with him in the coming year,” said Jim Kennedy, Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Greater Chattanooga Sports & Events Committee.

Growing up in Hixson, Tennessee, Smith has been a part of the Chattanooga community his whole life. Scott and his wife Susie live in Soddy Daisy with their three sons, four-year-old Atticus and one-year-old twins Holden and Sawyer. They are active members of Hixson First Baptist Church.

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