

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA SPORTS BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

Alabama's sports buildings and facilities consist of Paul W. Bryant Museum, Bryant-Denny Stadium, Sam Bailey Track Stadium, Hank Crisp Indoor Practice Facility, Coleman Coliseum, Gymnastics/Volleyball Practice Center, Thomas-Drew Practice Fields, Aquatic Center, Varsity Tennis Courts, Athletics Administration/Football Building, Sewell-Thomas Baseball Stadium, UA Women's Soccer Field, The University of Alabama Softball Complex, and Crimson Tide Golf Facilities.

Paul W. Bryant Museum - The Paul W. Bryant Museum offers over 100 years of Alabama football history and is a "must see" attraction. Drawn by the strong tradition of Alabama football, many visitors' initial contact with the University of Alabama is through the Bryant Museum experience. Guests of the museum are composed not only of fans of college football but also tourists, sports scholars, educators, school children, University of Alabama alumni, and donors. The exhibit hall of the Bryant Museum traces the history of UA football from its introduction by William Gray Little in 1892 to the present. Crimson Tide football coaches and player's careers, as well as highlights of Alabama's championships are featured. The press, public and researchers rely on the Bryant Museum as a reliable source for images and information. Each year the museum adds to its extensive collection of artifacts, library, and archival materials. Staff and assistants answer over 50 requests for information and images each month. The collection is shared with the public through outreach programs, tours, and publications. Located on the University of Alabama campus across the street from Coleman Coliseum, the museum is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is charged. Phone: (205)348-4668 – Fax: (205)348-8883 – Web: www.museums.ua.edu/bryant/bryant.htm

Bryant-Denny Stadium – Bryant-Denny Stadium was constructed in 1929, then called Denny Stadium, with a seating capacity of 12,000. Since then, there have been a number of expansion projects to increase the stadium to its current seating capacity of 83,818. The stadium was renamed Bryant-Denny Stadium in 1975 by the Alabama State Legislature.

Sam Bailey Track and Field Stadium – Officially dedicated in 1989, Sam Bailey Stadium was named in honor of longtime Alabama assistant coach and associate athletic director and serves as the home for the Crimson Tide track and field programs. The stadium features a 2,000 seat grandstand and pressbox. The Olympic size track boasts eight oval lanes and up to 10 lanes on the straight-aways. The complex also has enough pits for all jumping events and a grass infield for all throwing events. Every year Sam Bailey Stadium plays host to over 2,000 athletes for the Alabama Relays, one of the nation's most prestigious track and field competitions.

Hank Crisp Indoor Practice Facility – The indoor practice facility houses four tennis courts, office space for the men's tennis head coach, and his assistant, restrooms, and a tennis players lounge area. The facility also features, separate from the courts, a 110-yard artificial turf football practice field, which is fully heated and air-conditioned.

Coleman Coliseum – Memorial Coliseum opened on January 30, 1968, and was renamed Coleman Coliseum in February 1988. It is the home of Alabama men's and women's basketball, as well as gymnastics and volleyball. The Coliseum has a seating capacity of 15,341 for basketball and 15,400 (when chairs can be added on the floor) for non-sporting events. The coliseum houses the athletic department offices, except football, swimming, and men's tennis, as well as the President's reception area, an auxiliary gymnasium, an equipment room, weight rooms, steam bath, training room, food service areas, photo studio, and locker room facilities for staff and athletes. The Coliseum has hosted a diversity of events, including commencement exercises, alumni gatherings, student convocations, concerts, operas, ballets and orations by political figures.

Gymnastics/Volleyball Practice Center – Built in 1996 as an expansion to Coleman Coliseum, the Practice Center has a 12,500 square foot main practice space, and a separate 2,000 square foot aerobics/dance studio. The practice gym features a permanent hardwood floor consisting of two full basketball playing surfaces or three volleyball courts. In 2000, the Crimson Tide volleyball squad began using the gym and dubbed the CAVE (Coleman Auxiliary Volleyball Extension) as its home arena. Portable seating allows for a capacity of 1,000.

Thomas-Drew Practice Fields – Located adjacent to the Hank Crisp Indoor Practice Facility and Administration/Football Building, the Thomas-Drew Practice Fields serve as the daily home for the Alabama football team. Boasting three full practice fields, the facility permits the Tide to work on any phase of the game. The fields were named in honor of former University of Alabama head football coaches Frank Thomas and Harold "Red" Drew.

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Aquatic Center – The Aquatic Center, which opened in 1981, houses office space for coaches and administration, a complete weight room, dryland training areas, and meeting rooms. The Aquatic Center’s main competition pool is 25 yards by 50 meters and seats 1,500. When set up for long course competition, the pool has eight nine-foot wide lanes, and when set up for short course competition, the pool can accommodate up to seventeen nine-foot wide lanes. The main pool has four diving boards, two one-meter and two three-meter, and a five and ten-meter platform for diving competitions. In addition to the main competition course, the Aquatic Center has an eight lane 25-yard pool.

Varsity Tennis Courts – The University men’s and women’s tennis teams compete and train on the varsity courts. The main court area features six courts placed directly in front of the stadium seats for easy viewing on any court from any angle within the stadium. Two more courts are adjacent to the main competitive courts. The stadium structure has a seating capacity of 2,000, and all the courts are lighted.

Athletics Administration/Football Building – In addition to administrative and coaches offices, the football building includes meeting, equipment, and locker rooms, as well as a state of the art weight room and training room. The Tide’s spacious weight room is the workout home for Alabama football players. The 8,400 square foot area has the latest in weight and conditioning equipment.

Sewell-Thomas Baseball Stadium – Alabama baseball originally opened play at Thomas Field on March 27, 1948, with a seating capacity of 2,000. On April 6, 1991, a permanent grandstand was opened and the name of the facility was changed to Sewell-Thomas Stadium. In 1978, the facility was renamed Sewell-Thomas Field, and then with the addition of a permanent grandstand the complex was dubbed Sewell-Thomas Stadium in honor of former coach Frank Thomas and hall-of-famer Joe Sewell. The stadium, known as “The Joe” by Alabama fans, saw an addition of 2,000 seats, team locker rooms, and coaches’ offices, along with a pressbox elevator in 2001 to push stadium capacity to its current 6,118 level.

Alabama Women’s Soccer Field – In an elevated field adjacent to the university’s student recreation center, the Alabama soccer field features lights and portable grandstand seating for 1,000 for all Crimson Tide home matches. New sod and other landscaping to the soccer field in 2001 provided the complex with a new and improved appearance.

The University of Alabama Softball Complex – The Stadium and clubhouse opened in 2000 with a seating capacity of 1,600 and has batting cages large enough to accommodate three hitters at one time. The clubhouse includes offices for the head coach and his staff, a shower area for the coaches, an umpires’ locker room, a locker room for the players, a fully equipped training room, and a Crimson Tide team room. Two private luxury suites sit on both sides of the state-of-the-art pressbox that includes home and visitor radio booths, a television booth, a booth for the sound system, and a media room.

Crimson Tide Golf – With the recent completion of the Capstone Club the University of Alabama men’s and women’s golf teams now have a course to call home. The Capstone, a 6,996 yard/Par 71 course, provides the team with its own private practice facility along with a fully furnished locker room and team room. Ol’ Colony, a 7,041 yard/Par 72 course, also serves as a home for the Crimson Tide golf programs. In addition to these new courses, the Alabama golf teams benefit from the opportunity of being able to access several golf courses in the Tuscaloosa area for practice.