



**RELEASE:**

**NEW AMENITIES TO DEBUT FOR 2024-25 HOCKEY SEASON OPENER**

*Newly Upgraded Features to Enhance Fan Experience Debut Saturday*

**GRAND FORKS, ND / SEPTEMBER 30, 2024** – The University of North Dakota (UND) men’s hockey team begins its season against Augustana on Saturday, October 5 at 6:07 p.m. inside Ralph Engelstad Arena (REA). Tickets are available at [ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) and the UND/REA ticket office. Saturday evening’s home opener also celebrates the 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday of Ralph Engelstad Arena.

During the offseason, Ralph Engelstad Arena conducted fan experience surveys to gather input and opportunities for improvement. “We want to provide our fans with the most exciting, energetic, and seamless college hockey game experience in the country,” said REA general manager Jody Hodgson. “Based on fan input, we’re striving to meet their needs and exceed expectations each and every year.” New fan experiences and “Know Before You Go” information for the upcoming season include:

Party On The Plaza – Celebrate the 2024 U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame Game on the REA Plaza, Saturday, October 12 from 3-5 p.m. before the game. Enjoy the energy and intensity of live music with Slamabama and their unique blend of country, rock and pop. Slamabama will be providing the hits, along with draft beer, NUTRL seltzers and more. Event is rain or shine.

Mobile Ticketing – Hockey season is here. Now is the time to log into your My North Dakota Account to view your tickets and then add them to your Apple Wallet or Google Pay (if available to you) for easy entry. Familiarize yourself with a practice run before Saturday’s game. Questions? Visit [theralph.com/events/ticket-info](https://theralph.com/events/ticket-info) for detailed information. Tip of the Day: Login and logout of your My North Dakota Account to refresh your account if it has been a while since you last used it.

Not going to a game? Let us keep The Ralph full, loud and electric. It is as easy as 1-2-3 to sell, transfer or donate your digital hockey tickets with just a few clicks. Visit [theralph.com/events/ticket-info](https://theralph.com/events/ticket-info) to see how.

Official UND Athletics NIL Merchandise – Sioux Shop Authentics is your home for officially licensed UND NIL (name, image, and likeness) merchandise. NIL products include made-to-order UND branded player name and number merchandise, athlete graphic design t-shirts, and, if applicable to the student-athlete, UND jerseys. Visit the Sioux Shop in the lobby, Sioux Shop Up Top (outside section 316) or [siouxshop.com/authentics](https://siouxshop.com/authentics) to learn more and purchase merchandise.

Every UND student-athlete can participate in the Sioux Shop Authentics NIL merchandise program. A portion of the revenue generated from the sale of each piece of Authentics NIL merchandise is allocated directly to the student-athlete.

Remodeled Lactation Station – New flooring, lighting, seating, walls and décor have been added for a much-improved fan and family-friendly experience.

\*More\*



Light ‘Em Up – We are adding an additional 24 “show” lights in the main bowl for improved and more creative lighting effects. This brings the number of total “show” lights in the bowl to 58. We are also bringing the show to the home bench and UND entry tunnel with new lighting effects and CO2 jets to further highlight the UND hockey team as they take the ice nightly.

\$20,000 50/50 Saturdays – Back by popular demand, Ralph Engelstad Arena is again offering a chance to split a \$20,000 minimum pot each home Saturday hockey game! Visit a 50/50 kiosk along the main and upper concourses to purchase your 50/50 tickets.

TVs in the Elevators – In response to guest feedback, each of the four elevators in the Main Arena is now equipped with a television so that fans never lose track of the game, even while traveling in an elevator!

UND/REA Ticket Office Text Club – Join the new text club for special offers, ticket pre-sales, updates and more. Visit [theralph.com/plan-your-visit/text-club](http://theralph.com/plan-your-visit/text-club) to sign up today.

NUTRL Zone – This newly rebranded cocktail area outside section 106 features a variety of NUTRL vodka seltzer flavors, Cutwater canned cocktails, poured cocktails plus draft Busch Light and Michelob Ultra beer.

UND Gameday App - Download the app to play a variety of interactive games featuring fantastic prizes, including Check in to Win, Guess the Goal Scorer, Trivia Challenge and Player of the Game. The app also includes line charts, scores, schedule, game notes and special offers. Download it at the Google Play and Apple App stores.

Beverage Addition – An assortment of energy drinks will be available for purchase at two exclusive energy drink vending machines on the main concourse. Do not wait in line, use an energy drink vending machine.

Sioux Shop Adds Your Favorite Brands – This season, the Sioux Shop is pleased to offer apparel and merchandise from all the best brands, including Adidas.

UND Student Concessions Discount – To recognize the significant role that UND students play with the UND hockey program, UND students can purchase from a select menu of concession items at a discount this season at the Wishbone Kitchen concession stand (outside section 106) concession stand when they show their valid UND student ID card during UND hockey games.

For more information on Ralph Engelstad Arena services, policies, and promotions, visit [theralph.com/guest-services](http://theralph.com/guest-services). For any questions on improvements or initiatives for the upcoming season at The Ralph, contact Jody Hodgson at (701) 777-6633 or [jodyh@theralph.com](mailto:jodyh@theralph.com).

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**For More Information:**

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