The University of Pennsylvania announces new agreement with Ed Snider Youth Hockey Foundation’s Youth Hockey Program to support renovations of the Class of 1923 Arena which will become the Foundation’s home ice

The event will be celebrated at the NHL Stadium series weekend Charity Game
Friday, Feb. 22 at the 1923 Arena on Penn’s campus

Philadelphia, PA (Feb 18, 2019)–The University of Pennsylvania has joined with The Ed Snider Youth Hockey Foundation to have the Class of 1923 Arena serve as the home ice of Snider Hockey. As part of this agreement, the Foundation is providing $7 million to support numerous upgrades and renovations to the facility that will enhance the overall experience and allow the rink to be open longer to provide additional ice time. Following the completion of the work (anticipated for October 2019), Snider Hockey will expand its programs and operations at the University rink.

The NHL and the Flyer Alumni have joined with Snider Hockey in support of this effort, which will allow Snider Hockey to expand the delivery of its nationally acclaimed youth enrichment services to a wider audience. This project is largely possible by the Flyer Alumni acting on a $2 million pledge to support Snider Hockey and to honor the legacy of Ed Snider.

The Class of 1923 Arena has hosted Snider Hockey since the organization’s inception in 2005, serving hundreds of Philadelphia public school children throughout the years.

“The Foundation’s mission to build young lives and unite communities closely aligns with Penn’s commitment to access and inclusion,” said Penn president Amy Gutmann. “We are delighted that Snider Hockey wanted to strengthen our longstanding relationship by choosing Penn’s ice rink to be its home. The Flyers and the Foundation’s investment in the rink will greatly improve the facility allowing it to sustain the program for many years to come.”

“The Flyers Alumni are extraordinarily excited about this project at the Class of ’23 Arena,” said Flyers Alumni President, Brad Marsh. “Mr. Snider had a lasting impact on our lives, as well as the entire hockey community in Philadelphia. This pledge was made as a way to honor Mr. Snider’s legacy and continue to grow the sport of hockey.”

“The Flyers Alumni has supported Snider Hockey since our inception,” said Snider Hockey President, Scott Tharp. “This is a great example of what can be done when organizations come together in support of their community. Mr. Snider would be proud to have a truly great institution - the University of Pennsylvania - as the home ice for Snider Hockey.”

The new agreement will be officially kicked off at the NHL Stadium series weekend Alumni Charity Game on Friday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m., part of the 2019 Coors Light NHL Stadium Series™ weekend of events. Dr. Gutmann will be joined by Willie O’Ree, NHL Hockey Hall of Fame member and Snider Hockey board member, Paul Holmgren, president of the Philadelphia Flyers and Bill Whitmore, chairman of the board of the Ed Snider Youth Hockey Foundation in participating in the ceremonial puck drop.

General admission tickets are on sale now and can be purchased online: www.philadelphiaflyers.com. Information about the Penn Ice Rink, including directions and parking can be found at www.upenn.edu/icerink.
-University of Pennsylvania-
The University of Pennsylvania is an Ivy League institution with 12 undergraduate, graduate and professional schools in Philadelphia, serving a diverse community of more than 20,000 students from around the world. Ranked consistently among the top 10 universities in the nation, Penn has a longstanding reputation for excellence.

-Snider Hockey-
Ed Snider, the late Philadelphia Flyers founder and chairman, created Snider Hockey in 2005 as a personal commitment to teach children important life lessons. The mission of the Ed Snider Youth Hockey Foundation is to build lives and unite communities. It uses the sport of hockey to help educate young people to succeed in the game of life. Snider Hockey services are targeted for inner-city boys and girls who otherwise would not have the opportunity to learn to skate or to play ice hockey. The program includes over 3,000 students.

- FLYERS -
Through the years, the Flyers Alumni Association has maintained a tradition of giving back to the Delaware Valley community. Charities and community organizations that have been supported include the Ed Snider Youth Hockey Foundation, St. John’s Hospice, Ronald McDonald House, March of Dimes South Jersey and Junior Achievement of Delaware.