

Carolina Indoor Track Unavailable in 2011

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UPDATED

The indoor track season is facing quite a dilemma---where will the state finals be held in February of 2011?

That's the \$64,000 question at the moment. The original site, the University of North Carolina Indoor Track Facility will not be available this season. There is construction going on at Kenan Fieldhouse and the weight room equipment has been moved into the Indoor Complex. According to Tar Heels coach Anthony Parker, UNC will not be hosting any collegiate meets in the facility this indoor season, which means the North Carolina High School Athletic Association State Indoor Championships must find a new home.

"We're in limbo right now," said Watauga High indoor track coach Daniel Isaacs. "Hopefully, we can find a facility that will house the state championships. I would say ASU (The Holmes Center) is probably the best option we have right now.

"Going out of state is definitely out of the question. We still have time. (head coach) Randy (McDonough) will be at the coaching clinic this week (in Greensboro), and I'm sure he'll mastermind with the other track coaches on a possible solution to this problem."

The Holmes Center hosted three Appalachian State University indoor track meets last season---the ASU Invitational, the ASU Open and the Mountaineer Open. The Holmes Center is one of only two indoor facilities in North Carolina. The other is in Chapel Hill

"I'm not really upset, but I am concerned," McDonough said. "The Holmes Center is a realistic possibility, but again, it all depends on the (ASU) basketball teams and what their schedule looks like at that time of the year."

The state indoor meet is usually held around St. Valentine's Day weekend.

"It's just a wait-and-see situation right now," McDonough said. "But if we can work something out with ASU and with coach (John) Weaver, it would be a win-win situation for both.

"The state meet would be held at a top-notch facility and ASU could show off it's athletic facilities at the same time. We'll just see what happens."

A search for a new facility is currently underway. The state of Virginia has several facilities available, but according to DePaul Mittman, the NCHSAA State Meet Director, "going out of state is not an option."

The Greensboro Coliseum hosted the state indoor meet (on an old wooden track which no longer exists) until 2002 before it moved to Chapel Hill.