



## THE BUBBLE AT BAKER

Outdoor sports conditioning and skill development requires significant space and appropriate cubic footage. Constructing a seasonal air-supported structure (bubble) at Baker Athletics Complex is imperative for winter practice for our varsity outdoor field sports programs.

The Bubble at Baker will be placed over the soccer field in Rocco B. Commisso Stadium in winter months (November-March) for use by:

- Football
- Baseball and Softball
- Men's and Women's Soccer
- Women's Lacrosse
- Field Hockey
- Archery
- Club Sports and Intramurals
- Community Outreach/Rental Opportunities

## THE BOTTOM LINE

Initial Funding of \$488,000 approved by University in September 2015

- Covers design, pricing and investigation into operating and permitting costs

Anticipated total construction cost is \$8 Million

- Requires resurfacing soccer field, installation of anchors, new drainage, installation of HVAC unit for inflation/heating

Annual operating costs estimated between \$300,000 - \$500,000

- Includes annual inflation/deflation/storage
- Structure maintenance and snow removal

Goal: commence construction in May 2016

- Field resurfacing complete for 2016 fall season
- Initial bubble installation/inflation at conclusion of 2016 soccer season

To raise the construction and operating costs of the bubble, we are looking for generous support from our fans, friends, parents and alumni. We hope you consider supporting the new Bubble at Baker; all pledges to this project can be made over a five year period.

## AROUND THE IVY LEAGUE

**Columbia is the only Ivy League school without an indoor field sports practice location for inclement weather.**

Penn and Harvard have been operating seasonal air-supported bubbles in Penn Park and Harvard Stadium for a number of years.

Yale is investigating installing a bubble.

Dartmouth announced plans this year to build a permanent indoor practice facility for field sports, adding indoor practice capacity to Leverone Field House.

Brown's Olney-Margolies Center and Princeton's Jadwin Gymnasium provide extensive indoor space for team practices.

Cornell's Richard Ramin Room provides indoor turf practice facilities for field sports.



To join us in bringing our outdoor programs to the next level, please contact Lauren Dwyer in the Athletics Development office at (212) 851-7860 or lad2131@columbia.edu for more information, including pledge and naming opportunities.



“An indoor facility in the winter months is a key component in our long term plan to rebuild the program. Whether it is speed enhancement, cardiovascular training or position-specific drills, we are in desperate need of a place we can train. The bubble will allow us to work year-round, as Columbia never has been able to before.”

**AL BAGNOLI**  
Patricia & Shepard Alexander  
Head Coach of Football

“The offseason is invaluable to our success. Every player works each offseason to develop individually, and with the bubble, we will now be able to train on a full turf field as a team to improve collectively. It will help take our program to the next level and enable us to attract world-class recruits.”

**TRACEY BARTHOLOMEW**  
Head Women’s Soccer Coach



“A bubble is a game changer for our recruiting and team development. We compete with several schools that have much better indoor facilities; a bubble puts us on a level playing field and ahead of many.”

**JEN TEAGUE**  
Head Softball Coach



“We battle the cold and dark in the winter months and do not have an outdoor hitting facility when we have snow on the ground. The bubble gets us out of the indoor batting cages and into a much better venue to play live baseball at game speed, which will enhance our early-season development.”

**BRETT BORETTI**  
Head Baseball Coach



“To be a competitive program we must have a place where we can work on our lacrosse and athletic skills during the long cold months of winter. The bubble will better prepare us for our spring competition season.”

**ANDREA COFRIN**  
Head Lacrosse Coach



“A bubble provides our athletes with a proper indoor training environment when it isn’t possible to train outside. Having a full size pitch to condition and train hockey will give us a platform to develop and hone skills year-round. A bubbled pitch simply means more opportunities to excel.”

**CAROLINE NICHOLS**  
Head Field Hockey Coach



“Columbia Men’s Soccer is on the verge of something great. Access to year-round, top quality training facilities is a huge component of what will help bring us to that next level.”

**KEVIN ANDERSON**  
Head Men’s Soccer Coach