



Rutgers University Gymnasium - Renovation

Transforming an outdated gym into a modern sports facility

Like many schools saddled with gymnasium designed in an earlier era for physical education, Rutgers University needed to transform their existing outdated facility to meet current needs of intercollegiate athletics, intramural sports and recreation. Through a preliminary planning phase to confirm the program and look at multiple concept options to align the program and budget NORR had the knowledge to create an upscale fitness club atmosphere, in keeping with the people and purposes the facility now serves.

The most substantial change involved creating a mezzanine level in the pool area that opened up the structure's solid walls with glass. The new structure incorporated a distinctive new skybox conference room. While the main gymnasium space was generally upgraded, the existing natatorium space and nearby racquet court areas were completely reconfigured with defined areas to provide a lap pool, cardio equipment, weight training, free weights and dance/aerobics room. The existing large undifferentiated locker rooms were reconfigured to accommodate the various types of users. The placement of the various new components and a new entry, accessing both the gymnasium and the fitness centers, resulted in a more open, inviting and accessible environment.

CLIENT	Rutgers University
PORTFOLIO	Sports & Recreation
SIZE	75,000 SF (6,968 SM)
LOCATION	Camden, NJ, US
DATE	September 2009
SERVICES	Architecture MEP Engineering Structural Engineering Interior Design

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Sports & Recreation

NORR is a leading design consultant in the sports and recreation sector. Our experience is global and ranges from municipal community-centric facilities to medium-sized spectator complexes, college and university facilities and large-scale sports and entertainment venues. We create places and spaces that draw people together to collectively experience and participate in events.

Full Service and Experienced

NORR takes a holistic view of design through branding, urban and landscape design, retail and hospitality facilities and iconic architecture to achieve the project vision. We work closely with communities, institutions and stakeholders to develop a program that will satisfy user needs, provide efficient circulation, wayfinding and capacity to create a venue where spectacle and excitement keeps people engaged and wanting more. Good design supports multi-purpose, multi-functional spaces that are capable of hosting a wide spectrum of activities.

International Competition Venues

In Canada, NORR was part of the consortium that created SkyDome (now the Rogers Centre), the world's first multi-use professional sports stadium with a fully retractable roof. Thirty years later it continues to be home to the biggest sporting and entertainment events in Toronto. NORR, and its partners, also designed and constructed the award-winning Pan American Aquatics Centre and Field House. It was the largest new-build sport facility for the Toronto 2015 Pan Am Games. NORR built on its expertise in international diving centers from an earlier Dive Centre project at Southend, UK which was the 2012 Olympic camp for the British Diving Team.

CONTACT

E info@norr.com
norr.com

