



## Meet The 2008 Colorado Springs *Sky Sox* At The Sports Corp's Baseball Luncheon On April 15 at Noon

Make your plans now to meet the 2008 Colorado Springs Sky Sox baseball team and coaching staff at the Colorado Springs Sports Corporation's annual baseball lunch, Tuesday, April 15, at Noon in the Garden Pavilion of Penrose House, 1661 Mesa Avenue.

Manager Tom Runnells, hitting coach Rene Lachemann, pitching coach Chuck Kniffin and trainer Heath Townsend will be on hand, along with the full player roster as they chase the Pacific Coast League crown with some top Rockies' prospects in uniform.

**Reserved tables (10 seats) are priced at \$250.00 for Sports Corp Members and supporters, and Sky Sox season-ticket holders; \$300.00 for non-members; \$25.00 per ticket for members and season-ticket holders, and \$30.00 for non-members. Reservations can be made now by calling Caroline Carroll at the Sports Corp (719) 634-7333, ext. 1000, or by e-mail at [caroline@thesportscorp.org](mailto:caroline@thesportscorp.org). There are 300 seats available.**

The luncheon is sponsored for The Sports Corp by the El Pomar Foundation, Coca-Cola of Colorado Springs, and the Doubletree Hotel-Colorado Springs.

The Sky Sox open the 2008 season at Tucson on April 3, and come home to open at Security Service Field on April 11 at 6:05 p.m. against the Portland Beavers.

The Sox are the AAA top affiliate of the 2007 National League Champion Colorado Rockies. A total of 13 players who were with the Sky Sox during the 2007 season were on the Rockies' 25-man roster for the NLCS and World Series games with the Boston Red Sox. The Rockies were named "Organization of the Year," by *Baseball America*.

The 2007 Sky Sox set a new franchise attendance mark of 274,408 fans, averaging 4,158 per home game.

According to Pacific Coast League history, the Sky Sox franchise is an original member of the PCL, which was founded in 1903. The franchise operated in Sacramento, CA (Solons 1903-1960) was relocated to Honolulu, HI (Islanders 1961-1987) then moved to Colorado Springs in 1988 under the leadership of President and GM Fred Whitacre as the AAA Cleveland Indians' affiliate.

The name "Sky Sox" was adopted in honor of Colorado Springs' Western League Sky Sox (Class A affiliate of the Chicago White Sox) that played at Memorial Park from 1950 through 1958. When Colorado was awarded a Major League franchise, the new Rockies arranged for the Sky Sox to become their AAA affiliate. From 1993 through the present, Colorado Springs has been the top affiliate of the Colorado Rockies. The team won PCL titles in 1992 and 1995.

In 1988, Sky Sox ownership (Elmore Group, LLC) privately funded the construction of a new \$3.7 million ballpark, which was built on the eastern edge of Colorado Springs, near the corner of Powers Blvd. & Tutt Ave. The 8,500 capacity "Sky Sox Stadium", now known as Security Service Field, was constructed in less than three months in 1988 and opened on June 18 after earlier home games had been played at the old Memorial Park venue, Spurgeon Field.