

# NBA's Philadelphia 76ers to hold preseason camp at The Citadel

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Philadelphia 76ers center Joel Embiid (21) is defended by Atlanta Hawks' John Collins (20) and Clint Capela (15) as he looks for an opening. AP Photo/John Bazemore

The Philadelphia 76ers are coming to Charleston for preseason camp, after all.

The NBA squad will be working out at The Citadel's McAlister Field House, the military school confirmed Aug. 26.

The 76ers will be in town from Sept. 27 to Oct. 2, the school said. The team's roster includes NBA stars James Harden and Joel Embiid. Former College of Charleston star Grant Riller played with the 76ers' during summer league action this year.

“We are very excited for the opportunity to host the 76ers,” said athletic director Mike Capaccio. “This will be a great opportunity to show off our campus and our great city of Charleston.”

Earlier this summer, it was reported that the 76ers coach Doc Rivers wanted to bring his team to Charleston for preseason camp. A College of Charleston official confirmed that the 76ers were planning to practice at TD Arena, but the deal apparently never happened.

ESPN’s Marc J. Spears had said on the network’s NBA Today show that the Sixers were coming to Charleston, “to get away from family, to just concentrate on basketball and each other as a team, get their camaraderie.

“And along with basketball, Doc wants them to learn some American history. They’re probably going to go to a slave museum and learn about the Gullah culture out there in South Carolina.”

Rivers’ first two Sixers training camps were at the team’s training complex in Camden, New Jersey, but he has taken teams on the road for training camp earlier in his career.

He held his first Celtics training camp in Burlington, Vermont, and the team traveled to Europe ahead of Boston’s 2007-08 championship season. One of Rivers’ Clippers teams went to Hawaii.

“I’m a big proponent of going away for training camp,” Rivers said in a 2007 Boston Globe story by Spears. “We did it the first year when I was here and we had a lot of success that season, so I’m a big fan of getting the group away, especially when there are a lot of changes involved.”

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