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Governor's Challenge brings \$1.5 million to Wicomico County *120 teams participated in 38th annual tournament*

SALISBURY, Md. – Along with plenty of talent, the Governor's Challenge high school basketball tournament brought a \$1.5 million economic impact to Wicomico County.

The Governor's Challenge, sponsored by The Bank of Delmarva, brought 120 teams together in competition from Dec. 26-29 at the Wicomico Youth & Civic Center, University of Maryland – Eastern Shore and area high schools.

Teams from Maryland, Delaware, Washington, D.C., California, Florida, Georgia, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia and Canada traveled to Salisbury for this year's tournament. As a result, an estimated 900 room nights were booked at Wicomico County hotels.

“We are thrilled with the success of the 2018 Governor's Challenge,” said tournament director James Simmons. “Our community took a major step this year in coming together to put on a national event. I fully expect that in 2019 we will take another step in being considered one of the top high school basketball events in the country.”

The Governor's Challenge continued to garner national recognition, being honored as a 2018 Champion of Economic Impact in Sports Tourism by Sports Destination Management.

Simmons said he would like to continue to grow the tournament in 2019 by expanding to a five-day event, increasing the number of teams and pulling teams from new states. He also plans to introduce a National Showcase Championship Bracket.

For more information on the Governor's Challenge, visit www.GovChallenge.org.