**News Release**

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**The power of wood in amateur and professional sports**

*[INSERT ORGANIZATION NAME] and Gutchess Lumber remind consumers wood products have been the backdrop for sports*

<CITY, STATE>, [DATE] – If you’ve ever been to a basketball game or gone bowling, you’ve seen the backdrop of sports at work. The pattern and style of the floor might be elaborate or simple, but one commonality exists: real wood.

But the use of wood in sports hasn’t been limited to floors. Through the years, wood has been prevalent in sports complexes, ranging from the floor to the beams of gym ceilings. The next time you have the chance to bowl with friends, notice the lumber used to build those bowling lanes.

“Many Japanese bowling alleys were built in the 1980s with Gutchess Lumber's 5/4 Hard Maple,” Gutchess Lumber President and Chairman Matthew Gutchess said. “Consumers can see our hardwood products in bowling alleys, pool halls, and other sporting equipment in the United States as well.”

Wood can also be found in sports equipment. While the most obvious example of wood in sports equipment is the baseball bat, it can also be found in table tennis rackets, wooden skis, golf tees, and bows. Wood can also be the main component of rowing boats and cycling courses. Some athletes even use wood as a measure of their own strength — breaking your wooden bat is seen as an impressive feat in a professional baseball game.

[INSERT YOUR SPOKESPERSON’S QUOTE HERE]

While we might often overlook the prevalence of wood at sporting events, there’s no doubt — it quietly leads and shapes the sports we love to watch or participate in.

To read more about the history of wood in sports, read [this report on the heritage of wood's role in athletics](https://www.swst.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Wood-in-sport-equipment_Heritage-present-perspective.pdf).

**About Gutchess Lumber**

Gutchess Lumber is a 5th generation family and employee-owned organization that is committed to producing the finest quality of northern hardwood lumber across New York and Pennsylvania. Founded in 1904, the company has over 500 employee-owners and maintains high quality lumber being a fully integrated producer of hardwood, from timberlands to sawmills to dry kilns. To learn more about Gutchess Lumber and their products, visit their website [here](https://www.gutchess.com/).

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