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CHARLOTTE MARRIOTT CITY CENTER HOTEL GIVES ITS SPORTS BAR, CHAMPIONS, A NEW LOOK AND MENU TO APPEAL TO A WIDER AUDIENCE

CHARLOTTE, NC (June 2, 2010) — The classic sports bar concept has been around for well over 30 years, providing patrons with great burgers, wings, fries, beer, and plenty of TVs to catch the games on. Yet as more Americans are adopting healthier eating habits — and more women are dedicated sports fans — diners' tastes are changing.

As a result, Champions Sports Bar and Restaurant at the Charlotte Marriott City Center has undergone a facelift including new furniture, décor, and new 50-inch High Definition TVs, as well as a completely revamped menu. In addition to offering a variety of healthy food options (see below) the Charlotte restaurant has put a more contemporary and upscale spin on its tried-and-true favorites (think Beer Battered Onion Rings with Horseradish Dipping Sauce; Fried Calamari, Salt and Pepper Style with Thai Sweet Chili Sauce; and Baked Onion Soup simmered with Stout Beer).

According to Shea Gottshall, Director of Restaurants at the [hotel near the Charlotte Bobcat's arena](#), "We had a very classic sports bar menu, which we wanted to align with the current trend in using fresh produce as well as offering healthier options. Presentation as well as consistency in menu options is important in diners' decisions, and we wanted to be able to offer them this option, while remaining the comfortable sports-watching venue that Champions has always been."

As a result, the [uptown Charlotte restaurant's](#) menu has been changed and includes some of the following items which are already proven crowd pleasers:

- Thai Beef Salad with sliced, grilled beef, red onions, tomatoes, cucumbers, and peppers, tossed in tangy lime coriander chili dressing
- 40 Clove Chicken, brick grilled garlicky half chicken, sour cream-black pepper mashed potatoes, fried onion straws
- Blackened Fish Sliders – blackened tilapia with a chipotle remoulade served on potato rolls

Mr. Gottshall also notes that Champions restaurant has made a number of enhancements to its overall food recipes to incorporate the use of local market-fresh produce from Rutherford County. The farm-fresh concept used at the Marriott hotel is also being incorporated in the new specialty cocktails including the Strawberry Mojito, Sideline Cooler, Blackberry Jack, and Peach Margarita.





Champions Sports Bar & Restaurant, located inside the Charlotte City Center Marriott at 100 West Trade Street in Uptown Charlotte, is open for lunch and dinner seven days a week and features 42 large screen HDTVs. The [hotel near Bank of America Stadium](#) is in a perfect location for sports fans and Charlotte locals. For additional information, or to download the uptown Charlotte restaurant's new menu, visit <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/hotel-information/restaurant/cltcc-charlotte-marriott-city-center/>.

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