The Shrine Bowl of Nebraska, Inc. and the City of Kearney announced the 2013 and 2014 Shrine Bowl games will be played at the University of Nebraska-Kearney’s Ron & Carol Cope Stadium at Foster Field.

“Since the formation of the Nebraska Shrine Bowl in 1958, the annual event has been held in Lincoln. We have had a group working on this project since it was announced earlier in the year the Shrine Bowl Committee would be looking for a new home as Memorial Stadium could no longer host the football game due to new NCAA rules,” said Steve O’Brien, secretary of the Shrine Bowl Executive Committee.

Along with a new home, Shrine Bowl of officials announced the Nebraska high school football coaches for the 2013 game:

South team

Head Coach—Bill Carlin, Adams Central.

Asst. Coaches—Craig Schnitzler, Kenesaw; Brett Froendt, Omaha Westside; David Colling, Kearney Catholic; Shawn Mulligan, Adams Central; Dave Leader, Lincoln Southeast.

North team

Head Coach—Mike Johnson, Waverly.

Asst. Coach—Steven Gubbels, Arlington; Chris Nizzi, Creighton Prep; Joe Benson, Scottsbluff; John Bacus, Elkhorn; and Seth Styskal, Waverly.

An official bid was presented in September to the Shrine Bowl of Nebraska, Inc. by the Kearney Visitors Bureau with input from Kearney community leaders. Lincoln also presented a bid.

Funds from the Kearney Visitors Bureau along with funds from TEAM Kearney will be used to help offset the costs of hosting such a prestigious event.

The three Nebraska Shrine temples, Sesostris (Lincoln), Tangier (Omaha) and Tehama (Hastings) joined forces to create the Shrine Bowl of Nebraska, Inc. in May 1958.

This groups’ mission is to recognize the best senior football players and the efforts of great coaches in Nebraska with the goal of raising funds for Shriners Hospitals for Children.

The main purpose of this premier athletic event is to raise revenue to support the Shriner’s Hospitals for Children and benefit Shrine Hospital transportation funds.

Shriners Hospitals for Children is an international hospital system located throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico with specialties ranging from orthopedic, burn, and spinal care.

All 22 facilities provide specialized research and treatment to children under age of 18 free of charge to the patient and his/her family.

TEAM Kearney was formed to allow Kearney to continue to be a competitive sports and special events community in the regional and national markets. A group of hospitality businesses help provide funding to bring new events or expand existing events in the Kearney area.