

## New USFL sets sights on bringing football to Orlando?

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Raise your hand if you remember the Orlando Renegades. Well, it looks like the league that brought that team here back in mid-'80s, the United States Football League, is on the verge of a possible return.

Maybe.

According to a release, the San Diego-based USFL is seeking to have eight teams in cities without a National Football League or Major League Baseball franchise, such as Orlando, Portland and San Antonio. The league would play in the spring and work as a development-level league for players who need more playing time to make the cut in the NFL.

"The type of cities we are interested in are those with a strong sense of community, a deep appreciation of sports and a forward-thinking business atmosphere," said Jim Bailey, CEO of the USFL, in a release.

However, don't dust off your Renegades gear just yet, and take this with the biggest grain of salt for now. The league seems to still be gathering investors and funding — approximately \$5 million total — to get started and find those host cities.

That could mean if a city comes forward with part of the total investment — say, an Orlando investor — then there's a good chance Orlando enters the possible team discussion.

Orlando sports have been growing at a fast pace recently — most notably in soccer — and the prospects of sports in Orlando is ever wider. But we can't forget that while Orlando has become a soccer town of late, it has also been a sports graveyard for many teams trying to break into a market dominated by other major- and minor-level sports.