

# SPORTS BARS: Across the river



Chris Browarski/The Clackamas Print

Like the nearby Oregon City location, Lil' Coops in West Linn is right across the river in the Willamette neighborhood. Sports fans frequenting the town over the bridge have the option to enjoy a cozier setting than the larger OC restaurant. Just like its OC counterpart, West Linn Lil' Cooperstown boasts sports games on the TVs and rare collectible memorabilia on the walls.

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**Nicoli's Grill and Sports Bar: 17880 S.W. McEwan Rd. Lake Oswego**

Newly renovated Nicoli's features a bowling alley and arcade making it fun spot for the whole family. The restaurant opened in the spot of the former Players/Gametime location earlier this year and has given the old facility a fresh new feel.

"I heard about the place on the radio and thought my boys would like it," said Rick Peartree. "It's got good food and the kids have a fun time."

The menu is not extensive but does have some unique burger options such as the Slap Shot which features a fried egg and grilled ham. Nicoli's offers many beers on tap and in bottles to appeal to many tastes. What is unique are the four wines offered on tap for those interested in something fruitier.

Many screens show the games from around the country but unfortunately there is no audio being played apart from the bigger match ups. This isn't a terrible issue for larger groups as chatter can overshadow game sound but for couples and single patrons a different bar might be a better option.

Good service, good food and good games make for a lot of good times at Nicoli's Grill and Sports Bar.

**Lil' Cooperstown- 1817 Willamette Falls Dr, West Linn**

Lil' Cooperstown is a chain with a location in Oregon City. Heading across the bridge and taking Willamette Falls Dr. South, just past 10th street, brings you to a smaller version

in West Linn's historic district. While the name alludes to the baseball hall of fame, the bar accommodates fans of all sports and is a relaxing spot to watch a game.

A long bar is the main seating area but smaller tables line the back wall. TV screens are abundant for the smaller seating capacity and offer good viewing angles for most seats. While the world series brought out many of West Linn's Red Sox fans, Lil' Cooperstown is a perfect place to catch a Blazers game and have a conversation without shouting over the noise.

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*We come here a lot for basketball games.”*

**Michelle Green**  
*Lil' Cooperstown patron*

"We come here a lot for basketball games," said patron Michelle Greene. "My husband and his friends were here for almost all of March Madness last year."

Happy hour runs three to 6 p.m. and then again from 9 p.m. to close. A well equipped bar offers a good selection of beers and liquor and the kitchen has a full menu going beyond just burgers and sandwiches and features specialty entrées such as Parmesean Panko-Crusted Rockfish and Meatloaf.



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