



EYOWF
2011 | Liberec

EYOWF 2011 info

10TH European Youth Olympic Winter Festival 2011



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Students create Europe out of cubes Festival's Patrons pass their exams



Janko Dvoršak, Chairman of the EOC Coordination Commission for the EYOWF 2011

Janko Dvoršak: EYOWF 2011 will show future organisers the way



INTERVIEW
OF THE MONTH

Janko Dvoršak, Secretary of the Slovenian Olympic Committee, President of the 7th European Youth Olympic Winter Festival in Bled 2003 and member of the EOC Coordination Commission for the 2007 Festival in Jaca. He holds the office of the Commissioner for EYOWF 2011 in the Liberec Region. How does he see the preparations for the event?

10 months have passed since my last visit in November 2009 and there has been great progress in the preparations. All the departments are well prepared and from the information given by its members I assume there are only minor finishing touches left to do. All the members of the Organising Committee know perfectly where they are in the preparations and what will be their next steps. Also all the written manuals are almost finished and the members of the Chefs de Mission Meeting in the middle of November will receive them in time. Personally, I consider the Meeting a matter of the utmost importance.

Why is that?

The Meeting of the Chefs de Mission will be a key test of the readiness of the EYOWF 2011 Organising Committee. At the same time, it is an excellent opportunity for the Organising Committee to present the Festival to the members of National Olympic Committees and obtain their immediate feedback. Members of all 49 European countries of the EOC are coming to Liberec and they will be very much interested in everything connected with the Festival. I am convinced the results will be positive.

Jacques Rogge, President of the IOC, announced his participation at the EYOWF 2011 Opening. Does this prove that the EYOWF is regarded as a significant youth event?

Jacques Rogge is a founder of the Festivals and considers them very important and valuable for young people. Not only can young athletes measure their abilities against their peers from other countries, but they also obtain a peek into different European cultures. What is more, they realise they do not train in vain and they gain new motivation. From the perspective of the International Olympics movement, the „European youth Olympic Games“ are notable from the organisational point of view. We use the same logistics as for the senior Olympics and even the atmosphere is the same. The EYOWF is strongly supported by the EOC, because it is its own quality product.

The first Youth Olympic Games took place this year in Singapore. Wasn't this in a way competition for the EYOWF?

The first World Youth Games were held in Moscow in 1998, but we have decided that holding the event on that scale is pointless. The athlete nomination process itself is immensely complicated. Now, the IOC has revived the idea. Unfortunately, the organisers in Singapore financially oversized the whole event and put an incredible 360 million dollars into the organisation. I am not of the opinion that this is the future of these events and European Youth Festivals will take a different path involving reasonable investments and programme. I believe that the Liberec Region will show others the right way.

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Commissioner evaluated preparations

In the middle of September, the Organisers of the EYOWF 2011 in the Liberec Region passed another test of their readiness. During his three-day visit in Liberec, **Janko Dvoršak**, Chairman of the EOC Coordination Commission, personally inspected the current state of preparations. **Kateřina Nyčová**, Executive Director of the EYOWF 2011 Organising Committee, explained: „He gained an acquaintance with the current state of preparations in each department in detail. We appreciated his advice in terms of co-operation, interconnection and collaboration.“



Face of the Festival in Gold

Eva Samková, a snowboarder who became one of the Faces of the EYOWF 2011, has achieved a great sporting success. The 17-year old secondary school student from Vrchlabí won the gold medal at the FIS Junior World Championships in Snowboardcross. „This is fantastic! I really did not expect to win. Now, my next aim is to win next year in February at the European Festival,“ said the young athlete, who overtook Guilini from the USA's in the last bend. She races under the care of the trainers **Marek Jelínek** and **Jakub Flejšar**.



First nominations from Romania

The Organisers of the EYOWF 2011 have recently addressed each member country of the EOC in order to submit preliminary entries by numbers. The Festival in the Liberec Region next year expects to host some 1,500 participants from 49 countries. Despite the first round deadline in the middle of October, some countries have already sent their entries. The fastest and the winner ☺ to respond was the NOC of Romania, who registered 46 athletes, followed by the Czech Republic (102) and Switzerland (101).



QUOTATION OF THE MONTH

„The Chefs de Mission Meeting will be attended by people who understand what it means to organise international sporting competitions. They will scrutinise our level of preparation through the lens of their experience.“



ROMAN KUMOŘT,
The Honorary President of
the EYOWF 2011 Organising
Committee

BEHIND THE SCENES

Students create Europe out of cubes

In order to support EYOWF 2011, the Organising Committee has launched a knowledge and art competition for secondary schools of the Liberec Region called „Europe in the Heart of Europe“.



The motto of the competition is „Know the countries we will host“ and the students of the region have been asked to carry out art projects characterising

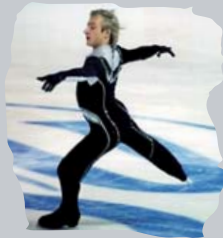
all the 49 countries of the European Olympic Committees and all the participating countries of the 2011 Festival.

„The aim of this activity is not only to support the Festival and its atmosphere, but to reinforce the European idea, mutual understanding, friendship and cooperation among young people of our continent,“ explained Vanda Šulcová, Competition coordinator.

In the first phase, students will devise a knowledge project about one of the participating countries. They will be looking for answers to questions regarding the country's characteristic features, what it brought the world and its greatest sport achievements. They have to incorporate their findings artistically into a map of the country as well as in a symbolic heart.

The organisers will then choose the most successful map and heart designs and transfer them onto opal Perspex cubes with an edge of 1 metre using special foil. All 49 cubes will be on display from January to February 2011 in shopping centres in Liberec.

The winning schools, selected by a jury during the final round on 12th January 2011, will win CZK 100,000 in prizes. The competition „Europe in the Heart of Europe“ is financially supported by the European Union with 3 million Crowns.



All disciplines of the EYOWF Festivals promise outstanding sports experiences

EYOWF 2011 will show future organisers the way

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And when the scale and format of the Youth Olympic Games settles down, the two kinds of competitions will complement each other. I perceive them as a notable and functional way of youth sport development.

What is your attitude to Czech sport? What Czech athletes do you know and respect?

The Czech Republic is a country with a remarkable sporting tradition. Hats off to Tomáš Dvořák, Šárka Zábrovská and in my opinion the best tennis player of all time, Martina Navrátilová.

How would you invite audience to the terraces of the EYOWF 2011 venues?

INTERVIEW OF THE MONTH

It is always a little tricky with the audience. Many organisers make agreements with schools, because the youth Olympics can be interesting for pupils and students. They have the opportunity to see the best athletes of their age with their own eyes. On the other hand, today's fans are demanding. They want shows, entertainment and sensation. For this reason, I am very pleased that the EYOWF 2011 Organising Committee has taken great care and has a sophisticated and well prepared campaign, which is due to start right after the regional elections. The fact that a general awareness of the Festival is high has been demonstrated by the fact that mainly young people have applied to the volunteers team, many more than was actually needed. That is a good sign and promising.

EYOWF 2011 info

Patrons Maturity Test

Two of the youngest EYOWF 2011 Patrons, top Czech athletes in their disciplines, have successfully passed their school leaving exams. The 21-year old Biathlete **Veronika Vítková** and the Ski Jumper **Roman Koudelka** (see photo) of the same age passed their final exams at the sport secondary schools in Jilemnice on 1st September. While Veronika had a difficult time with German, Roman had to tackle his native tongue. Both junior world champions agreed: „We will take a year break and then we would like to continue at university.“



Delicacies for gourmets

Apart from the top sporting performances at the 2011 Festival, the participants may also look forward to an unusual gourmet experience. **Ondřej Slanina** (see photo) will take care of their appetites, since he has become the Catering Manager of the Organising Committee. This catering businessman became famous in the Czech Republic especially thanks to the TV series „Boys in action“ and his numerous cook books, in which he offers plenty of tasty and original dishes and treats.



Rampich at a Fair

The Tipsport arena in Liberec hosted the Sports Live Fair and members of the EYOWF 2011 took part this year. The delegation was symbolically led by the Festival mascot, Rampich the Icicle. While Rampich was entertaining the crowds with his performance on ice, the organisers presented their information stand, which was visited by three members of the Olympic Cross Country Relay from Vancouver: **Martin Koukal**, **Martin Jakš** and **Jiří Magál**. They supported the Festival by posing with Rampich and placing their signatures into the chronicle.



NUMBER OF THE MONTH

49

number of cubes onto which students from the Liberec Region will transform their knowledge about each of the European countries that will take part in the 2011 Festival