



EYOWF
2011 Liberec

EYOWF 2011 info

10th European Youth Olympic Winter Festival 2011



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A positive signal from organisers to Festival participants Students filming EYOWF 2011 Patrons



Petr Hrubec (on the left), Secretary General of the Czech Olympic Committee, signing the contract for organising EYOWF 2011 in the Liberec Region, Patrick Hickey (in the centre), President of the EOC, and Raffaele Pagnozzi, Secretary General of the EOC

Petr Hrubec: Europe approves and gets ready for Liberec



INTERVIEW
OF THE MONTH

The Czech Olympic Committee is the co-organiser of the 10th European Youth Olympic Winter Festival (EYOWF) 2011 for athletes under 18 years of age in the Liberec Region and an important partner of the Organising Committee. Petr Hrubec, its Secretary General, is at the same time the Vice Chairman of the Administrative Board of the EYOWF 2011 Public Benefit Corporation. He has been closely observing the finishing touches two and a half months before the competition kick-off and has shown great optimism.

I think we can be very proud of the current state of preparation. Me, along with other members of the Czech Olympic Committee appreciate the readiness of each of the venues and we are glad to see how far the organisation itself has developed. I think EYOWF 2011 is basically ready. For that matter, during the recent Chef de Mission meeting in Liberec, which was attended by representatives of the European Olympic Committees, words of praise and admiration were heard constantly.

What were they mostly interested in and what made the biggest impression?

They have above all admired the compactness of the entire EYOWF 2011 project and the easy access to all of the venues. They have also appreciated the fact that all the participants will be accommodated in a common Olympic Village in Harcov and that the venues, apart from Rejdice, are close to one other. They liked our modern sport venues and were literally enthralled by our Ice Hockey Tipsport arena.

How will the Czech Olympic Committee use the youth Olympics to support youth sport?

In similar top international events we organise, we strive to be maximally successful. Success, medals and new models are always the best advertisement for sport. Czech national athletes will start in every discipline in their own country which is a rare achievement. With the organisers, we

have also arranged a special preparation camp for young Czech athletes in the venues so they can get used to the local conditions. Above all, we would really like to win the Ice Hockey tournament and to make it possible, we need all the teams to allow their best players to participate. In the past, we had some issues in this respect. Another important stimulation element is the first gold medal, if we manage to win one at the beginning, it would be a great encouragement for the athletes as well as the public.

In February 2011, Liberec will become the symbolic centre of Olympic diplomacy. How do you prepare for such an important event and the arrival of the President of the IOC, Jacques Rogge?

The attendance of President of the International Olympic Committee is a great honour for us. This is due to the fact that he was one of the founders of these Festivals. Another important aspect is that the Executive Committee of the European Olympic Committees will be held in Liberec, as well. We are also expecting many more notable guests, members of the European Commission and the European Parliament, members of governments, former Olympic champions and other prominent personalities from the social, political and sporting life from the Czech Republic and throughout Europe. The 2011 Festival will definitely be an exceptional event, which will draw extraordinary attention to the Czech Republic.

www.eyowf2011.cz

Patrick Hickey, Honorary President

Patrick Hickey (see photo), President of the European Olympic Committees (EOC), kindly accepted an offer by the EYOWF 2011 Organising Committee and became its Honorary President. „It is a great honour for us and a vindication of the traditionally excellent cooperation with the EOC. It is also a motivation for us to do our best in the organisation of this event,” said **Roman Kumpošt**, President of the EYOWF 2011 Organising Committee. Other members of the Honorary Committee are **Milan Jirásek**, President of the Czech Olympic Committee, and **Stanislav Eichler**, President of the Liberec Region.



A week of intense diplomacy

Over the week from 15th to 21st November, organisers of the European Youth Olympic Winter Festival (EYOWF) 2011 in the Liberec Region have passed the biggest and most thorough inspection of their preparations. First, there was a meeting of the **EOC Coordination Commission for EYOWF 2011**, followed by a meeting of the technical delegates for each sport discipline and finally there was a crucial meeting, a **seminar with representatives of all the European National Olympic Committees** from the participating countries. More about these diplomatic activities (and the good results) on page 2.



Flame to arrive from Greece

The Olympic flame will arrive on the 13th of February from the historical location of Athens, where the history of sport was written, in order to light up the the Opening Ceremony of EYOWF 2011. Members of the Greek Olympic Committee will light the flame in a ceremony taking place in the historical **Panathenaic Stadium**, built in 566 BC and known as the location of the first modern Olympic Games in 1896. The flame will be stored in three special containers and will be transported to the Czech Republic by a delegation consisting of members of the Czech Olympic Committee, the Liberec Region and the Festival organisers.



QUOTATION OF THE MONTH

„I would like to thank the organisers for preparing this great seminar. Over the last two days, they have demonstrated what a cohesive and excellent team they are. I am sure they will perform the same over the course of the Festival itself.“



JANKO DVORŠÁK,
President of the EOC Coordination
Commission for EYOWF 2011

A positive signal for Festival participants



It was a hot week for the organisers of the European Youth Olympics 2011 from the 15th to 21st November. After the initial meeting of the EOC Coordination Commission for EYOWF 2011 and a meeting of the technical delegates, the week culminated in the Chefs de Mission Seminar with the representatives of the European National Olympic Committees taking part in the Festival.



„The main task of the seminar was to convince and assure foreign delegates that the preparations for the 2011 Festival are almost complete, with only a need for the fine tuning of certain logistic and technical issues. I believe we have succeeded

in this mission and have sent a positive signal, as the reactions of all the participants were spontaneous and quite affirmative,“ Roman Kumpošt, President of the Organising Committee, summarised the outcome of the meeting.

More than eighty participants came to Liberec in order to obtain all the necessary information about the EYOWF 2011 project. This was carried out not only by means of presentations by each of the departments, but also through

viewing the actual environment for the first time with their own eyes. They went through the venues, facilities, accommodation capacities and the adjoining infrastructure. Each person received sufficient information in order to be able to form a clear picture regarding what to expect in the Liberec Region in February.

„The Chefs de Mission genuinely appreciated the organisation of the seminar, especially the dedication, motivation and readiness of the entire organising team and were pleasantly surprised by the young average age of the team and their efficiency. We know we have set a very high standard, but I can promise we will keep it high in February 2011,“ said Kateřina Nyčová, Executive Director of the Organising Committee.

Apart from the required meetings and inspections of the venues, the delegates also found time to explore a number of the interesting sights in the Liberec Region. They visited the Sychrov Château and the peak of Ještěd.



A look behind the scenes in the Zlatý Lev Hotel in Liberec where the Chef de Mission Seminar took place

Students Examine the Private Lives of Sports Stars



On the 24th of November, the Clarion Grandhotel Zlatý Lev witnessed the award ceremony of a competition called „On the Trail of the Patrons“. Eight pairs of students from secondary schools spent part of a day with one of the eight top Czech athletes, who are supporting the European Youth Olympics. The young film-makers created four-minute portraits of the stars using their own approach and screenplay.



The athletes who let the students into their private lives, were – the Cross Country Skier **Lukáš Bauer**, the Downhill

Skier **Ondřej Bank**, the Biathlete **Veronika Vítková**, the Ski Jumper **Roman Koudelka**, the Ice Hockey Goalie **Marek Schwarz**, the Nordic Combined Skier **Pavel Churavý**, the Figure Skater **Tomáš Verner** and the Snowboarder **Michal Novotný**. A jury of ten, consisting of members

of the EYOWF 2011 Organising Committee, the Liberec Region, the Czech Olympic Committee and the media, had to choose the best pair in the competition. The unanimous winners were **Filip Ferbl** and **Vlastimil Barák** (see photo) from F. X. Šalda secondary school in Liberec, who made their mark with a portrait of the Downhill Skier Ondřej Bank. Roman Kumpošt, President of the EYOWF 2011 Organising Committee commented: *„I would like to thank all the students for the excellent job they did. They all managed to get the best out of a less than easy task. I believe it will be an unforgettable experience for them.“* Each portrait will be available at the Festival website and at certain Czech media.

EYOWF 2011 info



During the Chef de Mission Seminar in Liberec, we asked representatives of the national Olympic Committees what they were most looking forward to at EYOWF 2011 in the Liberec Region.



Sari Tuunainen – Communications Officer, Finland: *„I am looking forward to the great atmosphere during the Festival. I would like the young contestants to enjoy the competition in the spirit of fair play and not to take the races too seriously.*

After what I have just seen, I think EYOWF 2011 will have a great standard.“



Borut Kolarič – Head of Sport Games Programmes, Slovenia: *„I honestly hope there will be much fun at EYOWF 2011.*

The Czechs are good at organising sporting events, they understand sport. And they are also funny, which I could see with my own eyes. At the same time, I believe that our delegation will come up trumps. I am overall convinced that EYOWF 2011 will be a great success.“



Stratos Karetos – Technical Advisor, Greece: *„I am looking forward to the nice weather - which I hope will come. I am also expecting overall good service during the Festival. So far, the organisers are doing a great job. If they continue with their efforts like this, EYOWF will undoubtedly be successful.“*

Advice for future organisers

The Organising Committee has decided to make use of the experience and skills acquired during the long preparations for this significant event and share it with future Festival organisers, as well as other top sport competitions. The **Observer Programme** consisting of lectures and discussions will be held during the Festival from 15th to 17th February 2011 in Liberec. Anyone interested in the seminar can apply by 20th December the latest to jan.kubes@eyowf2011.cz.



NUMBER OF THE MONTH

1529

total number of members of NOC's delegations from all 46 countries who applied for EYOWF 2011

SILVER PARTNER



BRONZE PARTNERS



PARTNER



MEDIA PARTNERS

