

5TH TAFISA WORLD SPORT FOR ALL GAMES Siauliai 2012 NEWSLETTER

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5th TAFISA
World Sport
for All Games



Siauliai 2012
Lithuania

2012. Season's Greetings!



RELIGION. The meeting of the Community of Religions of Lithuania, the Bishopric of Šiauliai, the organizers of the 5th TAFISA World Sport For All Games Šiauliai 2012, and Egidijus Vareikis, the Member of the Seimas, was held in the Lithuanian Parliament. They have discussed the organization of the event *We Create a Better World by Peace and Love*, which is expected to be held during the Games on the 9th of July in 2012 in Šiauliai Arena. Representatives of different religions, who will arrive to the Games, could participate in this event, proposed by E. Bartulis, the Bishop of Šiauliai. We have never had such event in Lithuania.

VISIT. On the 15th of December 2011, Kelly Park, TAFISA Director of Business Development and Marketing visited Šiauliai. The guest mentioned that before her arrival to Šiauliai, TAFISA leaders have met with the representatives of IOC (International Olympic Committee), and invited them to the Games. Speaking about future works on this direction, she mentioned that invitations to the Games will be



sent for TAFISA partners – UNESCO, UN (United Nations), IOC, EOC (European Olympic Committee), WHO (World Health Organisation), etc. The representatives of International Sports Federations are invited to the Games as well. Kelly Park was interested in the details concerning the coordination system of works, accommodation conditions, the regulations of sports and cultural events, and was satisfied with the progress made. It is already clear that the program of the Games will be complemented by World Karate Championship, which will be held by WKC (World Karate Confederation), and European Union Committee of the Regions' conference. "Your city is not well known. Many people say: "Šiauliai. Where is it?" The Games is a perfect chance to popularize Šiauliai and Lithuania", said Kelly Park.

CONFERENCE. It is planned to organize the international Wellness conference and EXPO. As a result Doctor Habilitus A. Raslanas and his colleagues from high schools of the country arrived to Šiauliai in the beginning of December. L. Lukošienė, the Board Member of Healthy Lifestyle and Natural Medicine Chamber of Lithuania, A Kazlauskienė and S. Norkus, the Dean and the Head of Šiauliai University Faculty of Education, and the

representatives of Šiauliai College and Šiauliai Health Office attended the meeting. The projects on healthy lifestyle promotion, which will be held before and during the Games, were discussed. The conferences and subjects of exhibitions, as well as the organizational issues, were discussed.

EU. The European Union will provide almost 500 thousand Euros (about 1.7 million LTL) from its Budget of 2012 for the Games, organized in Šiauliai Region. The funding has been actively achieved by D. Matonienė, the Vice Mayor of Šiauliai City and the Member of Lithuanian Delegation in the European Union Committee of the Regions. She has met the representatives of the Department of Directorate General of European Commission, responsible for culture, education, science and sports. They have discussed the Games in Šiauliai, and their relevance for the European Union as well. The success of this project was called as a unique one by K. Štelmokaitė, the representative of Association of Municipalities of Lithuania in Brussels, and provided Šiauliai as an example for other municipalities.



BUSINESS. The organizational issues of Business Forum, which will be held during the Games, have been discussed by business representatives of Šiauliai City: V. Japertas, the President of Šiauliai Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Crafts, Director General A. Jonuška, A. Rupšys, the President of Šiauliai Association of Industrialists, D. Matonienė, the Vice Mayor of Šiauliai Municipality and the organizers of the Games.



CULTURE. The meeting of organizers of Šiauliai Culture, held on the 7th of December 2011, has involved P. Poderytė, the Head of Department of Culture, her Deputy D. Kinčinaitienė, and the representatives of Šiauliai

Cultural Centre, Concert Hall *Saulė*, Art Gallery, Cultural Centre *Laiptų Galerija*, Šiauliai University and other institutions. The spaces of events were specified, responsibilities divided, and the form of events were discussed.

MUNICIPALITIES. The Director of the Games, K. Petraitis, has participated at the meetings with the Mayors of Šiauliai District Municipalities and organizational working groups: Radviliškis, Joniškis, Kelmė, Pakruojis, Akmenė, and Šiauliai District. They have discussed the detailed program, place, time, etc. of the events, and visited sports facilities.

MEETING. The meeting of working group took place in the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Lithuania, in Vilnius on December 28th, 2011. At the meeting Director of the Games, K. Petraitis, has overviewed the existing situation of the preparation for the Games, works performed, the most important future objectives, delegations registered, sources of funding and expenses, the conditions of accommodation, transportation and sightseeing tours for participants. The Vice Mayor of Interior, the Head of the working group G. Vyšniauskas, the member of working group G. Mikšys, L. Vingelis, the Counsellor of the Prime Minister, D. Kamarauskienė, the Director of Department of Budget of the Ministry of Finance, V. Vainys, Deputy Director of Cultural Education and Sports Department, J. Sartauskas, the Mayor of Šiauliai City and the Deputy Head of working group, V. Alekna, the Counsellor of the Minister of Interior, R. Judinas, Sen. Specialist of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, E. Pranevičius, the Director of administration of Radviliškis Municipality, D. Staponkus, the Vice Minister of Culture, K. Bartkevičius, the President of Non-Olympic Committee of Lithuania, and V. Paketūras, the Secretary General of Lithuanian Union of Sports Federation participated in the meeting.

Later the meeting of J. Sartauskas, K. Petraitis, and N. Borgerdt, the Deputy Director of PI Sport For All – Šiauliai Region 2012, with the Director of Lithuanian Folk Cultural Centre, S. Liausa took place. The concept of events, which are expected to be held together with Lithuanian Folk Cultural Centre during the Games, was discussed.

TRADITION. About two hundred people took part in the event *Meet the New Year Being Frisky*, which has been organized for the third time on the 30th of December 2011. The

Mascot of the Games participated there as well. Šiauliai School of Physical Education, which has invited Šiauliai citizens to the traditional event, started a parade on the Boulevard. The Mascot joined the participants, who started the event from the Museum of



Bicycles. The enthusiasts gathered and had some exercises near Kastonu Avenue, and the highlight of the event was the duel of Christmas and New Year Santa Clauses in a team tug of war contest. Both times were successful for the Mascot's team. There was a lottery and no lack of presents for winners and participants. Percussion ensemble Rhythm Otherwise from Šiauliai 1st Music School had their performance as well.

ITALY. Many demonstrative sports and national demonstrations will be included into the program of the Games. Tamburello, Italian traditional sports will be one of them. Giuseppe Olivieri, the representative of Italian Tamburello Federation, has presented this traditional court



game, known since the 16th century in Italy and being particularly popular in Northern and Central Italy, to the organizers of the Games. It is played five against five in the open air, and three against three when playing inside. The points are calculated in the same way as in tennis, although differently

from the latter, Tamburello is a team sport. Tennis ball (if played inside, because if played outside a different and heavier ball is used) shall be bounced not with a racket but with a tool similar to tambourine (tamburello). There is no net and teams are separated only by the line drawn in the middle of the court. "Although the game is usually played in smaller towns of Italy, however we have started to popularize this game in recent years – and it has spread in Germany, France, Spain, Hungary, and particularly in Cuba", - said Olivieri.

