



SWEDEN TO HOST 2004 WORLD RINGETTE CHAMPIONSHIP

Stockholm, Sweden -- November 1, 2004

Nearly 100 athletes and coaches will be traveling to Stockholm, Sweden later this month for the 2004 edition of the World Ringette Championship. Participating countries include Sweden, Finland, USA and Canada.

Finland and Canada are considered the top contenders as the Sam Jacks Trophy has alternated between the two countries since 1992. Canada is currently the defending champion after an exciting 3-1 victory over Finland at the 2002 World Ringette Championship in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

The preliminary round of games will be hosted by three different ringette clubs in the greater Stockholm area. IFK Mariefred will host games on November 23 at the Akers ice hall in Akers Styckebruk, Segeltorps IF will play host on November 24 at the Visattra ice hall in Huddinge, and Ulriksdals SK will be the host on November 25 at the Solna ice hall in Solna. The final games on November 27 will be hosted by the national association at the Visattra ice hall in Huddinge.

“We have had tremendous support from our local ringette clubs in hosting this event as they realize the benefit of having top caliber ringette athletes as role models for their own membership,” said Helie Boman, president of the Swedish Ringette Association.

In an effort to encourage the continued growth and development of ringette in Sweden, each of the national teams will assist with school programs in the host communities during the week of this event. In addition, they will be attending a 15-and-under tournament in Sollentuna on Friday, November 26.

“This has been a good move for Sweden to host this event, to take advantage of the skills and experience of these elite athletes, and to showcase the incredible sport of ringette to their countrymen,” offered David Mills, VP-Competitions for the International Ringette Federation.

About Ringette

Ringette is a 41-year-old Canadian invention that has become one of the fastest sports on ice. The sport was invented in North Bay, Ontario, Canada by the late Sam Jacks. Ringette is currently played in Canada, Finland, Sweden, United States, Slovakia, Czech Republic and France. In addition it has been introduced in Germany, Switzerland, Russia, Estonia, New Zealand, Australia, and Japan.

For more information on the 2004 World Ringette Championship, visit the website of the International Ringette Federation at www.ringette.cc or contact:

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