



JUNIOR BRUINS

PRESS RELEASE

The Junior Bruins organization is proud to announce its participation in three world class international tournaments for the 2010 spring hockey season. Designed to be held at the end of the winter season while athletes are at their maximum potential, the World Selects Invitational tournaments will host the best talent in the world for the 95, 96, and 97 age groups and will include the participation of select teams from Russia, Sweden, Finland, Czech Republic, Latvia, Slovakia, Austria, as well as a small number of elite teams from North America. These tournaments are Super AAA only. Participation in the World Selects Invitational tournaments will also offer our elite athletes the opportunity to visit some of the most beautiful countries in the European Union.

The 95 World Selects Invite will be held in the beautiful port city of **Helsinki, Finland** and will run in conjunction with the Girls U-18 World Invitational. The tune up portion of this event will take place in historic **St. Petersburg Russia** and will include exhibition games with Russian clubs like SKA. This event will include tours of the two destination cities and will include the historical heritage and culture of each location. In St. Petersburg the participants will stay in the heart of the city on Nevsy Prospekt. This location was the base of power for the former Leningrad and the location of Tsar Peter 1 of Russia's birth place and home of Catherine the Great. It is a Unesco World Heritage Site and the second largest city in Russia. It was also the final destination for Hitler's forces in WW11 and retains an invitation for the conquering forces to attend a gala at the Astoria Hotel – An event that never occurred as the Nazi forces were stopped short of this beautiful city.

The city of Helsinki sits on the northern shore of the Gulf of Finland and is one of the most unique cultures in the world. Formerly occupied by both Russia and Sweden, Finland has retained its entirely unique language, culture and cuisine and has managed to take an international role in the electronics market as the home base for communications giant Nokia. Finland lies a mere 600 miles from the Arctic circle yet is moderated by the gulf stream resulting in pleasant temperatures and a comfortable climate on par with our own. Rich in culture with its Royal Palace, Cathedrals and beautiful waterfront, Helsinki also boasts an active nightlife and a beautiful promenade with restaurants, shopping and many unique art galleries and boutiques.

The 96 World Selects Invite will be held in **Prague, Czech Republic**. Prague or Praha as it is known by its people is often referred to as the Paris of the north. Praha boasts one of the most beautiful Royal Castles in all of Europe with Royal Gardens, Art Galleries, Museums, and a spectacular Cathedral all within its grounds. Mistaken for the city of Dresden from the air, Praha was left relatively unscathed by WW11 bombing and exists as wonderful example of early European architecture. Prague also boasts a vibrant nightlife rivalling Vegas in its variety and diversity.

The tune up portion for the 96 event will take place in **Munich, Germany** on the northern edge of the Barvarian Alps. Home of BMW, Oktoberfest and considered by many as the birthplace of beer, Munich is a wonderful slice of German culture, quisine, and technology. Participants in the 96 event will visit the Neuschwanstein Castle, the historic Hoffbrauhaus, and will spend a poignant afternoon at the Dachau concentration camp. While in Germany teams will play exhibition games against EV Fussen and EHC.

The 97 World Selects Invite will be held in **Riga, Latvia**. A former member of the USSR, Latvia resides on the western border with Russia and between Lithuania and Estonia on the southern shore of the Baltic Sea. Latvia is steeped in Baltic culture and heritage with elements unique to its location and its own Latvian heritage. The historical center of Riga has been declared a Unesco World Heritage Site and is notable for its German Art Nouveau architecture. Riga, like all cities of its 12th century vintage has a beautiful old town largely in tact from its origins as well as many examples of German influence and Communist occupation.

The tune up eportion for the 97 event will be held in the vibrant city of **Stockholm, Sweden**. Stockholm is the remarkable core of the baltic region and the largest city in Sweden. Stockhorn dates back to the 13th century and is composed of 14 islands on the south-central east coast of Sweden and currently comprises 21% of Swedens population. The Old City known as Gamla Stan is the core of this metropolis and contains the Royal Palace of Stockholm and is easily acessable by one of the best commuter rail systems in Europe. Participants will play exhibitions games against top swedish clubs like Djurgarden and AIK

These World Selects Invitational Tournaments are an example of hockey at the very highest level and many of their participants will go on to successful professional hockey carreers. Each of the tournaments is highlighted by the WSI Opening Ceremony Dinner, WSI Allstar game, and exposure to some of the best hockey on the planet.

