



EYOWF
2011 | Liberec

EYOWF 2011 info

10th European Youth Olympic Winter Festival 2011



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EYOWF medal winners are heroes in Vancouver Twenty-two times on winners rostrum



Roman Kumpošt, the Honorary President of the EYOWF 2011 Organising Committee

Roman Kumpošt: Adopting Canadian helpfulness and smiles

INTERVIEW
OF THE MONTH

Roman Kumpošt, the Honorary President of the 10th European Youth Olympic Winter Festival (EYOWF) 2011 Organising Committee in the Liberec Region, attended numerous meetings in Vancouver and closely observed the organisation.

The Olympic Games are usually a clash of generations. Could you compare, at least in the Nordic Skiing, how the new, rising talents performed?

There were countries which had a number of new talents in their teams, which demonstrates solid work with youth. These included the German, Austrian, Swiss, or Slovenian national teams. In contrast, the performances of our young Czech athletes were, apart from Hájek in Ski Jumping and Jakš in Cross Country Skiing, not particularly convincing. The results of our junior skiers were without a doubt something our coaches and responsible officials should seriously think about. At the same time, it poses a warning that youth require intensive care before the generation of Lukáš Bauer leaves. This is the most current problem throughout Czech sports. I am consequently glad that EYOWF 2011 provides young athletes from the Czech Republic with a competition on a European level and the opportunity to confront their performance and strong motivation.

The majority of the medallists from Vancouver have recently reached medal position at the EYOWF competitions. Is it true that a good junior makes his mark as a senior?

Not always. However, the current top senior athletes were also among the first places on a junior level. This goes for the present-day stars Bjørgen, Svendsen, Lamy Chappuis, Plyushchenko, Ber-

ger, Paerson, Olsson, Koukal and others. If four athletes from one country place within the first twenty places in one discipline, the national team need not worry about the future.

Why are events like EYOWF so important for the young generations and the development of sport itself?

Young athletes need to compete at top sporting events in all age groups. They learn how important it is to work hard to achieve success. Sport thus becomes a momentous factor in maturing. Young people learn that there is no free lunch in the world that even a great talent has to work hard every day to become one of the best. This is a significant lesson for life. And there are more practical things, such as understanding the importance of knowing foreign languages.

Although the Winter Olympics in Vancouver and EYOWF cannot be compared in scope or status, is there anything worth copying for the 2011 Festival?

I would recommend that all the organisers and volunteers follow the exemplary attitude of their Canadian colleagues. Vancouver was filled with smiles, helpfulness and a positive mood. It is these people the participants meet soon after his arrival and who shape the overall impression that the participant takes home with him or her. This will be a big challenge for us.

Youth goes global

This year, the European Youth Olympic Festivals (summer EYOF and winter EYOWF) will gain a global partner. From 14th to 26th August 2010, Singapore hosts the historically first Youth Olympic Games, in which young athletes under 18 years of age compete in 26 disciplines. The winter premiere of the Youth Olympic Games is scheduled from 13th to 22nd January 2012 in Innsbruck, where seven disciplines are planned. This demonstrates that the IOC pays serious attention to supporting sports and the young generations.



Three crucial contracts

Three crucial contracts have been signed by the EYOWF 2011 Organising Committee. The Technical University of Liberec will provide their halls of residence to accommodate the Festival's participants: the Olympic Village will be created on the campus and the daily award ceremonies will take place here. The Clarion Grandhotel Zlatý Lev will accommodate the heads of the national delegations, members of the EOC and VIP guests. And finally, now that the contract has been signed, the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, the Ice Hockey tournament and the Figure Skating competition can take place in Tipsport Arena in Liberec.



New department created

The EYOWF 2011 Organising Committee has expanded through opening a new and important department, which will primarily communicate with the National Olympic Committees and provide full services at the same time. The head of this department is Marie Sokolová (see photo), who has successfully held a similar position during the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships in Liberec in 2009, during which she worked closely with the attachés of each national delegation. There are 49 countries expected to participate at the 2011 Festival.



QUOTATION OF THE MONTH

"The success of every event including the Olympic Games depends on good organisation and the success of the home athletes."



JUAN ANTONIO SAMARANCH,
the Honorary President of the
International Olympic Committee

STEP OUT FROM THE CROWD
CARVE A PATH

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STEP OUT FROM THE CROWD
CARVE A PATH

BEHIND
THE SCENES

EYOWF medallists among the heroes of Vancouver

Are sporting achievements on the junior level a direct ticket to the medal world of senior athletes? Are the stars of European Youth Winter Olympic Festivals destined to also become stars among seniors? The statistics compiled by the EYOWF 2011 Organising Committee offer an interesting perspective on this problem.



Martin Koukal, EYOWF 1995 winner

A list was created containing the names of all the athletes who have won at least one of the medals at any of the nine Winter Festivals since 1993. When compared with the participants of the recent XXI. Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver 2010, the number of matches reached exactly one hundred.

Vladimír Zemánek, Communication Coordinator of the EYOWF 2011 Organising Committee comments as follows: „We could only count medalists from individual sports, because including the listing of Ice Hockey tournaments proved impossible. Considering that the EYOWF has a very limited number of disciplines, the overall number of those Festival winners and those who have made it to the Olympics is really high. This demonstrates that the Festival has an excellent standard and mirrors the future of world sport.”

Many from the one hundred successful juniors also ranked among Vancouver's dominant athletes in their disciplines even after a number of years. **Sixteen of them were able to use their talent and won one of the first three places at the top senior event, collecting 22 medals in all!**

Marit Bjørgen became a three-time Olympic champion in Cross Country Skiing (with an additional silver and bronze placing), **Emil Svendsen** had only one victory less. **Tora Berger** won

one gold in Biathlon, **Jason Lamy Chappuis** in the Nordic Combined and **Johan Olsson** in Cross Country Skiing. All of them succeeded at EYOWF as well as in Canada in their traditional disciplines, the only exception being **Björn Ferry** in the Biathlon, who had won mixed relay Cross Country Skiing at the 1995 Festival.

One remarkable fact is that apart from Lamy Chappuis, champion from 2003, nobody else had won at EYOWF. Bjørgen won the bronze medal at the 1997 Festival in the 7,5 km classic, as well as Olsson in the 10 km free style. Berger finished second in the 1999 Festival's 7,5 km distance, similarly to Svendsen in 2003 in the 10 km race.

The list of silver and bronze medallists from previous EYOWF events who shone in Vancouver can be found in the **Sixteen chosen ones, twenty-two medals.**



Jason Lamy Chappuis won at the EYOWF 2003

Most of the medal holders, who took part in the 2010 Winter Olympics, succeeded at EYOWF 2005 in Monthey (19 members), with five snowboarders making up most of them. The second place goes to Poprad 1999 (17) thanks to seven athletes in Alpine Skiing. The third largest delegation in Vancouver came from Vuokatti 2001 (16), including five alpine skiers and four ski jumpers.



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Sixteen chosen ones, twenty-two medals

Sixteen gold medallists from the past nine EYOWF events made it to the Winter Olympic rostrum in Vancouver, winning 22 medals in all:

1st place:

Tora Berger (Norway): at the EYOWF 1999 in the 7.5 km.

Marit Bjørgen (Norway): at the EYOWF 1997 in the 7,5 km classic.

Björn Ferry (Sweden): at the EYOWF 1995 in Cross Country Skiing – Mixed Relay.

Jason Lamy Chappuis (France): at the EYOWF 2003 on K90/7,5 km.

Johan Olsson (Sweden): at the EYOWF 1997 in the 10 km.

Emil Svendsen (Norway): at the EYOWF 2003 in the 10 km and 3rd in the 7,5 km.

2nd place:

Dominik Landentinger (Austria): at the EYOWF 2005 in the 7,5 km and 3rd in the 10 km.

Peetu Piironen (Finland): at the EYOWF 2005 in the Half-pipe.

Yevgeni Plyushchenko (Russia): at the EYOWF 1997 in individuals.

Kristiina Shmigun (Estonia): at the EYOWF 1993 in the 7,5 km and 3rd in the 5 km.

Tim Tscharnke (Germany): at the EYOWF 2007 in the 10 km.

3rd place:

Darya Domratcheva (Belarus): at the EYOWF 2003 in the Mixed Relay.

Martin Koukal (Czech Republic): at the EYOWF 1995 in the 10 km freestyle and 2nd in the 10 km classic.

Anja Paerson (Sweden): at the EYOWF 1997 in the Giant Slalom and 2nd in the Slalom.

Tony Ramoin (France): at the EYOWF 2005 in the Snowboardcross.

Anton Shipulin (Russia): at the EYOWF 2005 in the 7,5 km and 1st in the 10 km.

Festival as a medal reservoir

The following overview shows how many medallists from each of the EYOWF events started at the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver:

1993 Aosta: 2
1995 Andorra la Vella: 10
1997 Sundsvall: 13
1999 Poprad: 17
2001 Vuokatti: 16
2003 Bled: 12
2005 Monthey: 19
2007 Jaca: 9
2009 Szczyrk: 2

Total from the nine years: 100



Peetu Piironen

NUMBER
OF THE MONTH

16

number of medallists from previous EYOWF events who made it to the rostrum at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver

