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## ITF World Championship – Québec 2007

### *Le Rendez-vous des Champions*

### **IX Junior World Championship & XV Senior World Championship May 31st to June 3rd 2007**

The worldwide ITF family will be gathering at the *Rendez-vous of Champions* in Québec City (Canada) in 2007. The Organizing Committee has set three goals for this event:

1. to have an outstanding tournament,
2. to use this event to raise awareness of the ITF, and Taekwon-Do around the world, and
3. to make this event an unprecedented gathering of the worldwide ITF family.

#### ***Competition***

This will be the largest competition ever for the ITF! Our goal is to have more than 1,000 competitors from 70 countries plus those who will be accompanying the competitors.

The 9th Junior and 15th Senior World Championships will be held at the same time and in the same location for the first time in the history of the ITF.

The competition will be held in the indoor stadium of Laval University, and university officials have given their full support to our Organizing Committee.

Each National Association is encouraged to send a large delegation. The maximum number of competitors is one for each category in the senior competition and three for each category for the junior competition. There will also be team events as usual. We are sure many non-competitors will want to accompany the delegation to offer their support and encouragement.

#### ***The XVI ITF Congress***

Over the last three years your ITF team has been working on restructuring the ITF organization and on offering members more and better services. We expect to have completed this restructuring phase before the Congress in 2007.

The XVI ITF Congress will meet on June 1st, and the team that will lead the ITF for the following years will be elected, as specified in the ITF Constitution.

The team elected in Québec City will have the responsibility of taking the organization on to the next phase: development. This means increasing the visibility of the ITF and its affiliated organizations, working to increase membership (more countries and more individual members), helping NAs to continue to work on making their organizations and activities more democratic, supporting our NAs in their development planning and programs, continuing to improve teacher training, and enhancing the services offered to ITF members.

#### ***Social Events & Cultural Activities***

A program of social events, such as the awards banquet and the big final party for all participants, will take place near the sports complex. We will also be organizing a number of interesting cultural activities.



### ***Training Seminars & Courses***

Training seminars and courses will be offered both before and after the World Championship competition. We are planning 3-hour workshops on various subjects for a few days before the competition starts. We are working on the possibility of an intensive teacher training course after the competition to be offered in collaboration with Laval University.

Subjects covered in these seminars and courses could include: teaching the Do, strategic planning for development, financial planning, administration for a Taekwon-Do school, marketing and publicity, and coaching.

### ***Tourism***

Competitors and those who accompany them will want to visit Québec City, region which is one of the most popular tourist destinations in North America. Historic Old Québec City, with buildings dating back to the 17th century, is often described as “an Old World city in the New World”. UNESCO named it a World Heritage Site in 1985.

Québec City is the capital of the Province of Québec and is considered to be “the cradle of French in North America”. In 2008 the city will be celebrating the 400th anniversary of its founding by Samuel de Champlain. The population is 95% French-speaking, but most people dealing with visitors speak English and often other languages.

The tourism bureaus of the City of Québec and the region are very interested in working with the Organizing Committee to make your visit as interesting and enjoyable as possible.

### ***Accommodation***

We have already reserved blocks of hundreds of hotel rooms to house the delegations. Participants will have the choice 2, 3, 4, and 5-star hotels, so there will be something to suit everyone’s budget. We will also be making arrangements for local transportation for participants during the event, and there will be organized excursions to points of interest.

### ***Promotion***

There will be a lot of public and media interest in our event, and this will result in good publicity for the ITF and Taekwon-Do.

You will be receiving a lot more information in the coming months: how to organize your delegation’s participation in international competitions, sample letters of support, how to find financing, how to put together a presentation file and how to use it effectively. You will also receive posters and other promotional materials to send to your affiliated schools and clubs.

We are very excited about an initiative of the Organizing Committee: a comprehensive promotion campaign. We have signed a contract with Titane Productions, a firm with considerable experience in the production of sports videos, particularly mountain biking competitions. Titane will provide daily television feed from the event and will produce videos of the competition. They are also planning to make a 20-minute documentary film about the ITF.

Competitors will be invited to participate in a mass Taekwon-Do practice in the National Battlefields Park, an enormous green space in the heart of the city, perched high on the cliffs above the Saint Lawrence River. This will be a visual spectacle that should attract much media attention.



There will be a press room on the competition site. Also, there is a possibility that the tourism bureaus could provide some assistance for the travel of journalists who would be writing about the Québec City region as a travel destination.

These promotional activities are an initiative of the Organizing Committee, but they will benefit ITF organizations around the world. Take advantage of this opportunity to promote Taekwon-Do in your country.

### ***Special Support***

All three levels of government – the Canadian Government, the Government of the Province of Québec, and the City of Québec – are cooperating with the Organizing Committee to make this event a success.

The Ministry of International Relations of the Province of Québec has agreed to transmit to the embassy or consulate of your country here in Canada an official letter from the Organizing Committee inviting your organization to send a delegation to this event. (Of course, you will have to indicate to whom or to which organization in your country the invitation should be delivered.) You may find such an official invitation useful when applying for the necessary travel documents and for fund-raising.

We are working with some suppliers to create a Solidarity Program that would help with fund-raising for competitors from countries where there is no official ITF presence or where it is difficult to raise the funds needed to travel to the championship competition. We will send you more information about this program as it becomes available.

### ***More Information***

The official Web site of The Rendez-vous of Champions will soon be found at [www.itfqcquebec2007.com](http://www.itfqcquebec2007.com). There will be an announcement on the ITF Web site as soon as it becomes available.

### ***A Warm Welcome***

The ITF World Championship will be an opportunity for your competitors to measure themselves against their peers from other countries. It will also be an occasion for all participants to exchange ideas and experiences. Participation on the international level such as this is essential for progress. You can be sure everyone will return from this event energized and highly motivated.

With the active and enthusiastic participation of all ITF National Associations, we can make this event a great success.

