



PRESS RELEASE #2

October 02, 2009

The Press Conference dedicated to the forthcoming XVI World Taekwon-do ITF Championships was held on October 2 in the Physical Culture and Sports Committee of St.Petersburg. The following people spoke at the meeting:

Mr. Vadim Moiseev, Deputy to St.Petersburg Sports Committee Chairperson

Mr. Kim Yong Hun, representative for the International Taekwon-do Federation

Mr. Mikhail Shmelev, Chairperson of the Organising Committee for the XVI World Taekwon-do ITF Championships

Mr. Alexander Systsov, the Head Coach of the Russian Taekwon-do National Team, Honoured Master of Sports

Mr. Alexander Simakov, Coach of the Russian Taekwon-do National Team, the Head Coach of the St.Petersburg Taekwon-do Team, Honoured Master of Sports.

According to Mr. Moiseev the Taekwon-do development in St.Petersburg deserves particular attention. The city of St.Petersburg got used to the wins of the St.Petersburg athletes at the competitions of the highest level. These World Taekwon-do ITF Championships are the wonderful opportunity for our competitors to make themselves known.

Mikhail Shmelev said a great thank you to the Municipal Administration and Sports Committee for their enormous contribution to the TKD development. Thanks to the appeal by the Governor and the Head of the Olympic Committee of Russia to the ITF President two teams from Russia are allowed to participate at the Championships.

The widow of the Taekwon-do Founder Mrs. Choi is expected to be seen at the World Championships as it is known she has declared her wish to come to the city which had been repeatedly visited by General Choi Hong Hi.

There will be 56 Russian competitors (17 of them are from St.Petersburg) performing at the World Championships.

The following questions were raised at the Press Conference:

1. About the ITF Congress

The International Taekwon-do Federation Congress is to be held on October 13 at Prybaltiyskaya Hotel. The key question on the agenda will be election of the new ITF President.

2. About the two teams from Russia and the Overall Country Champion

Medals won by the two Russian teams (Russia-1 and Russia-2) will be counted separately.

3. About the Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony will take place on October 14 at 19.00 at "Yubileyny" Sports Complex. The Ceremony will be conducted by Prof. Oleg Orlov, the People's Artist of Russia, production director of the major Russian and International festivals.

4. About the World Championships tickets

Despite the financial crisis and thanks to the municipal authorities support, entrance to the sports venue is free.

At the end of the Press Conference members of the Organising Committee for the XVI World Taekwon-do ITF Championships invited the St.Petersburg citizens to the coming event to be held on October 14-17 at "Yubileyny" Sports Complex.

