

Vision

Welcome to the October edition of Miami-Dade Sports Commission's, *Vision*, the e-newsletter designed to keep you up-to-date on the latest sporting events and activities taking place in Miami-Dade County and at your local sports commission.

HELPING TO BUILD BETTER COMMUNITIES

With Election Day quickly approaching, Miami-Dade County voters will have the opportunity to help better their community simply by touching YES on their ballot screen. The Building Better Communities Bond program, also known as the General Obligation Bond campaign, consists of 8 resolutions that include improving the County's water, sewer and flood control systems; improving parks and recreational facilities; improving our infrastructure and public safety facilities; constructing emergency and healthcare facilities; public service outreach facilities; and building new cultural, library, and multicultural educational facilities.

The improvement of our local parks and recreational facilities is critical to the success of your Miami-Dade Sports Commission, as well as the success of sports within our community. Together, we can help make Miami-Dade County a stronger community now and in the future. Vote YES, on November 2nd, for all 8 questions related to the Building Better Communities Bond Program. For more information, please visit www.MiamiDade.gov/Bond2004.

GROWING AMATEUR SPORTS IN MIAMI

The [Amateur Athletic Union](#) (AAU) is one of the largest sports organizations in the United States dedicated to the growth and promotion of amateur sports. Earlier this month, Assistant Director, Heather Wasek, traveled to Stamford, Connecticut to attend the 2004 AAU National Convention. Welcomed with open arms and outstanding hospitality, this was the Miami-Dade Sports Commission's official introduction to the AAU. The connections made at this convention are vital to the success of your local sports commission, and establishing a strong relationship with the AAU has been a priority from day one. In addition to attending the conference, the Miami-Dade Sports Commission also sponsored the closing reception. We look forward to hosting future AAU events here in Miami.

I LIKE IT LIKE THAT!

Your Miami-Dade Sports Commission team, along with Joe McCray from the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, traveled to Houston for the annual [TEAMS Conference](#). This annual meeting of destinations and events rights holders provides a forum for these groups to come together and discuss hosting opportunities for upcoming annual conventions, national championships, and regional qualifiers. With numerous appointments and hours of networking sessions, your Sports Commission came home with several strong leads for new event business for the County.

A proud sponsor of the TEAMS Hospitality on Wheels, Miami Sports ensured that events rights holders would leave Houston with only one place on their mind, MIAMI! Armed with tropical refreshments, music echoing our Latin and Caribbean soul, and prizes that reinforce the hip culture and style only Miami has to offer, we left our bus goer's saying: YEAH BABY! WE LIKE IT LIKE THAT!

Missed out on the fun this year? Not to worry, TEAMS 2005 will be held in sunny South Florida next October. Be sure to COME EARLY AND STAY LATE! See all that Miami has to offer with its miles of beautiful beaches, fabulous culture, and fantastic facilities!

A WORLD OF EVENTS

Miami is your international gateway to the Americas and your Miami-Dade Sports Commission wants to ensure that every event from all across the world can find a home here in Miami-Dade County. Here is your update on the recent events secured or bid on by your Miami-Dade Sports Commission:

World Cup of Flag Football 2005

The 2005 World Cup of Flag Football will be coming to Miami, February 24-27, 2005. The championship event for the International Flag Football Federation is affiliated with 12 countries including Dominican Republic, Brazil, Canada, Mexico, and Venezuela. The World Cup will bring approximately 1200 athletes to compete in the 4-6 day event. The event will be held at [Barry University](#) in Miami Shores.

International PowerLifting Federation

The [International PowerLifting Federation](#) (IPF) is the governing body of powerlifting internationally. The IPF is comprised of member federations from ninety-five countries on six continents. The Miami-Dade Sports Commission and IPF are currently negotiating to bring five events to the [James L. Knight Center](#) located in downtown Miami beginning in 2005. The events include the North American Championships, the PanAm World Championships, the Master's World Championships, and the Men's Nationals.

USA Judo

Thanks to the leadership of Nestor Bustillo and the FIU Judo Club, [USA Judo](#) will bring

three events to Miami beginning in 2005. USA Judo is the national governing body for the sport of Judo in the United States. This group conducts national championship events with athletes ranging from young children to athletes over the age of 30. The events include: USA Judo's 2005 Fall Classic and Ladder Tournament, the 2007 High School Nationals and NCJA Collegiate Nationals, and the 2007 Senior/Masters/Kata National Championships. The Miami-Dade Sports Commission will work closely with USA Judo and our local Judo leaders to ensure the success of these important events.

We continue to work on several prospective events each day, and are always interested in new sports and new events. If you have any events or sports that you would like us to work on, or you are just curious as to other events we are considering, please feel free to email your [Miami-Dade Sports Commission](#).

SPECIAL THANKS

The Miami-Dade Sports Commission would like to offer special thanks to the folks at the Amateur Athletic Union and TEAMS 2004 Conference for your warm welcome and fantastic hospitality!

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Champions aren't made in the gyms.
Champions are made from something they
have deep inside them -- a desire, a dream,
a vision. ~ Muhammad Ali