

MORE LIKE THE MOHR SISTERS

3,000 Volunteers For 2005 Duisburg

Miriam and Milana Mohr are two of 1,000 volunteers who have already signed up to support The World Games 2005 Duisburg with their hard work and friendly smiles. More than 3,000 are expected to volunteer their time during the games!

A professional makeup artist applies the colors of the World Games fasciNATIONS to their faces. Given the complexity of the patterns, this process can take as long as 40 minutes. Afterwards it is strictly: "Hands off the face for the next few hours on the job!"

Miriam (22) and Milana (20) Mohr staff the World Games 2005 information booth at events in and around Duisburg, answering the citizens' questions about the multi-sport games and "30+ sports at their best". At the MSV Duisburg (the city's Bundesliga team) home games, at charity fundraisers, at the Christmas market – the World Games 2005 information booths are omnipresent, and the volunteer squad around Miriam and Milana gets deployed regularly – up to three times per month. "The people we talk to are friendly and curious; they expect more than just our promotional

handouts – they want to know much more about The World Games," explains Miriam. She studies psychology in Münster but returns to her parents' home in Duisburg every weekend. "The World Games 2005 are a challenge for the city; as a local I must identify with them," Miriam believes. "Besides, it's great fun to engage in conversations with people." By now she has also learned how to keep her hands off the face – even if it itches around the nose – and the colors don't smudge any longer!

Next year, Miriam and Milana – who both speak foreign languages – will likely be assigned to work as attachés to one of the national delegations. More than 3,000 volunteers will be involved in The World Games 2005 between July 14 and 24. Deploying them according to their specific abilities and skills will be paramount to the success of the games. "We need volunteers who know their way around the area," Christoph Gehrt-Butry of the city's Sports Council defines their profile. No one – not the athletes, not the spectators – should get lost on his way from one venue to another between Rhine and Ruhr. Signs will get put up for the spectators; the transport service will ensure that the athletes get to where they belong. Volunteers with a driver's license will

also be needed. People with solid computer skills, others with a good command of a foreign language to help the guests from everywhere in whatever situation ... The list is still long! "For assignment to a number of areas specific knowledge will be prerequisite," Gehrt-Butry adds. Since the recruiting drive was officially launched in early October, World Games 2005 Ltd. has already been able to sign up 1,000 volunteers. "We are very happy about every single registration we have received so far. We now seek to inspire even more people fond of sports to join The World Games 2005 as a part of our team," Dirk Schröter, Head of 2005 Duisburg Marketing, says.

Volunteers Wanted! Inquire Within! Jointly with DSM, Germany's market leader in outdoor advertising and a World Games 2005 Premium Sponsor, the organizers put up 500 billboards in 21 cities of the Lower Rhine region. The billboards with six young faces in full 'fasciNATIONS worldgames' war paint aim at broad demographic targets: more than 3,000 volunteers are required to help out in all areas of the World Games 2005 organization.

"Are you a safe driver, a computer freak, or do you have a command of one or more foreign languages? Do you feel like being a part of our World Games team? We are still looking for people who fancy being a volunteer at next year's games!" Please contact World Games 2005 Ltd.:



Korfball: World Championships – World Games Test Event

The Netherlands revalidated as U23 World Champions, narrowly defeating archrival Belgium in the final. Germany won the bronze over Chinese Taipei. And the Duisburg organizers earned praise!

The International Korfball Federation puts great emphasis on its youth championships. It expects a similar level of organization to that of its senior championships. That made Duisburg an obvious choice as venue for this year's U23 World Korfball World Championships. The 8-day tournament was not only the decisive test for youth teams from ten nations, the World Games organizers were scrutinized as well.

The event was staged in the same hall which will be used for the World Games korfball tournament, and it gave the organizers of the multi-sport games an excellent trial run, allowing them to test all their systems on a real event.

Once the full dress rehearsal was concluded, Duisburg was deemed fit for The World Games. Gracious hosts to the 2004 U23 World Korfball Championships, organizers and citizens are ready for bigger things to come. That's the verdict of an expert: Egon Jolig, Sports Director of the German Gymnastics Federation. He congratulated Duisburg's Mayor Adolf Sauerland: "You presented yourself as a friendly city and courteous hosts to this event, you will be perfect hosts to the athletes in The World Games 2005!"

More than 4,000 spectators attended the final games at the Krefelder Sports Hall.



NOV 3

Nicht-olympische Verbände (NOV) is the German confederation of national bodies governing sports which are not Olympic. NOV representatives meet with the World Games Organizing Committee to discuss their active involvement in the upcoming edition of The World Games. After the exchanges in Duisburg, the NOV Chairman, Wolfgang Rittmann, sums up the views held by his colleagues: "The World Games provide our sports with an excellent opportunity to present themselves internationally and nationally. Having the games staged in our own country only ups the stakes for us. That seems to be generally understood by now. We have taken note of the fact that the organizers have made significant progress in converting The World Games into a high-profile event."

Asked how the NOV could contribute to the success of 2005 Duisburg, Rittmann replies: "By seizing the opportunity of The World Games 2005 already now and by promoting them among the public at large! That is something which the organizers in Duisburg and the partner cities cannot achieve all on their own. We have to mobilize our constituents for The World Games 2005. I am certain that this will now be done."

Last but not least, Rittman has a clear vision of how the German delegation will have to present itself during The World Games 2005: "We are keen to have all German athletes identifiable as a 'Team Germany'. I believe we are making progress with that. Approximately 350 athletes will represent our country. We will be a rather large delegation which needs to present itself as a 'team' to its own public."



NOV 8

It is the first day to remember at the MSV-Arena: Duisburg's MSV wins its sixth home game in series – 1:0 against Aachen – thus keeping on track to ascend to the highest German league for the next season. 20'000 spectators celebrate the soccer team's victory and another, certainly no less impressive, feat! Only 13 months after the cornerstone was laid, the work on the MSV-Arena, the new stadium where the Opening Ceremony of The World Games 2005 will be held on July 14, is nearly completed. Construction crews managed to keep to the record schedule. Prior to the game, they get to parade on the field to the cheers of the crowd – in the *Richtfest*, the traditional roofing ceremony. The World Games organizers provide even more pre-game entertainment: American football, one of 2005 Duisburg's invitational sports, is demonstrated to thousands who don't know that a ball doesn't necessarily have to be round, and that players other than the goalkeeper can pick it up with their hands.

The 2005 Duisburg American football tournament will be played at the MSV Arena too. The fabulous new stadium is scheduled to be officially inaugurated by early January 2005. No one seriously doubts that the construction crews will finish putting up the last stands in time for the next day to remember.



HEAVY TRAFFIC TO worldgames2005.de

70% of the traffic to the revamped Internet site of The World Games 2005 Duisburg is generated by German visitors. A new peak was registered on October 27: 2,254 unique visitors for the 24 hours. On the average, the visitors spend six minutes on the site and call up five pages. More and more volunteers take advantage of the online registration feature. Preliminary requests for tickets to the many events of The World Games 2005 can also be made through the site.



CAPITAL MATTERS

Gerd Bildau, CEO of World Games 2005 Ltd., reports to the permanent committee for sports of the German Bundestag, the national parliament, in the capital Berlin. The Federal Ministry of the Interior increased the 2005 budgetary allocation for sports and approved subsidies in the amount of 2 million Euros to 2005 Duisburg. That was in mid-October. Now – only a few weeks later – Bildau is to inform the 15 Members of the Sports Committee about how and where the funds will be invested in the cities of Duisburg, Bottrop, Oberhausen and Mülheim, and about the state of the preparations for The World Games 2005. "One gets the impression that you could start tomorrow," Peter Rauen, Christian Democrat, Member of the Bundestag and Chairman of its Sports Committee, sums up the Berlin briefing on 2005 Duisburg.

"I will most certainly attend The World Games next year," pledges Rauen after the presentation on a range of organizational matters and on efforts made by 2005 Duisburg to promote and publicize the multi-sport games. "It is all very convincing," Rauen compliments Bildau. After the November 10 presentation, the chairman confirms the members' views that the funds were well invested.

The World Games 2005 CEO is equally satisfied with the outcome of his journey to Berlin: "A positive discussion about 2005 Duisburg's importance for German sport in general evolved out of the briefing."

