



Finland to host the European Cheerleading Championships in Helsinki!

The European Cheerleading Championships will be organized at the Helsinki Ice Hall on June 30 to July 1, 2018.

Nearly 3 000 athletes, coaches and supporting members are expected to arrive in Helsinki, as teams from 26 European countries compete in the event.

Finland will be sending a total of 12 club teams, who all earned the right to represent their country at the Finnish National Championships last December, to the competition. The teams come from the cities of Tuusula, Turku, Oulu, Tampere and Helsinki.

"Finland strives to be an active member of the international federations, and organizing the European Cheerleading Championships helps play a big part in that. For years, Finland has been one of the most successful European countries in this sport, and we can expect to see a number of medal-worthy performances from the Finnish teams at the home games," comments Riikka Taivassalo, president of the Finnish Cheerleading Federation, on the significance of the competition.

Teams will be competing in a total of 12 different categories, in juniors and adults. There will be close to a total of 150 performances at the competition, and the Helsinki Ice Hall is expected to be full as almost 4 000 tickets to the event have already been sold.

"The competitions are organized mainly by volunteers. In addition to the actual live event, we'll have so-called 'cheerbubbles', where you can watch the live stream, all throughout Finland. The aim – in addition to organizing a great competition – is to also use the event to increase the popularity of the sport in all of Finland," says Essi Von Bell, competition secretary.

The competition was last organized in Finland in 2010. Last year, the competition was organized in Prague, and Finnish teams brought home a total of 7 medals, 3 of which were gold. Earlier this year, the Finnish National Team brought home Gold in the Women's Cheer Division at the World Cheerleading Championships.

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