

# PRESS RELEASE APRIL

## 30. 4. 2024

### LETNÁ WILL WELCOME THE HOCKEY ELITE IN DECEMBER, WINTER HOCKEY GAMES 2024

In addition to the World Championships in May, Czech hockey will have one more special holiday - on the first weekend in December, an arena will be built on the Letná plain in Prague for more than 16,000 spectators who will have the opportunity to watch several extremely attractive matches over four days. There will be two matches of the domestic ice hockey extraliga, matches of the top Slovak and German leagues and the highlight should be the duel of Czech and world legends. From 5 to 8 December 2024, Prague will host the premiere edition of the Winter Hockey Games.

*"We are preparing a completely unique hockey 'St. Nicholas' gift, the aim of which is to offer the Czech spectator top hockey from the highest competitions of the three Central European countries," says Andrea Barsony from the organising agency Eniva.*

The series of outdoor matches is scheduled for four days. One game is scheduled for the opening two days - Thursday and Friday - and four games will be played over the two weekend days. A detailed game schedule is not yet available, with the organizing agency Eniva confirming only the matches of the top Czech competition in the first phase. So what will be on offer (among other things) in the unique arena overlooking Prague Castle?

Thursday 5 December: university hockey match

Friday 6 December: Czech Tipsport Extraliga match HC Škoda Plzeň - Baner Motor Č.

Budejovice Saturday 7 December: Slovak Tipos extraliga match + Czech Tipsport extraliga match HC Sparta Praha - HC Kometa Brno

Sunday, December 8: Czech legends vs.

*"It is obvious to all hockey fans that the quality on the ice will not be lacking - and neither will the emotions, because each time it will be a duel of traditional rivals. I believe that not only Czech, but also Slovak and German hockey fans will find their way to Letná," adds Barsony.*

*The line-up of the Slovak and German Extraliga matches will be confirmed in the coming weeks. "We are negotiating with several clubs that are interested in presenting themselves at Letná. It is an exceptional concept of combining several competitions, in which we need to combine a lot of details and since some of them are not yet fully finalized, the fans will have to wait a while for the names of the players," says Martin Loukota, director of the Association of Professional Clubs APKLH.*

*From the point of view of the Czech Extraliga, another open-air match is a positive signal, it will add attractiveness to the competition. "Open-air matches are a nice addition to the extraliga and we are glad that clubs are positive about their organisation. We have been discussing the Winter Hockey Games in December with the organizing agency for several months - also because the project involves three countries, the coordination is not completely easy. Anyway, I am glad that we managed to bring everything to a successful conclusion and I believe that the fans will enjoy the opening weekend of December at Letná," Loukota adds.*

A 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> hockey complex will be built on Letná during the first weekend of Advent, with two huge LED screens and a LED ring for the presentation of the partner's performance. There will also be a spacious fanzone, where a spectacular show will be prepared for fans every day, including musical performances by well-known Czech and international artists before each match (included in the ticket price).

*"Matches in unique locations are always an enrichment of the Extraliga. Letná, a beautiful view of the whole city and Prague Castle. We were very happy to accept the invitation to this event," says Petr Vosmík, CEO of HC Sparta Praha. "We have a 100% record in open-air duels, which we will want to confirm in our city," he recalls Sparta's victories against Kometa in Brno and Litvínov at the stadium in Dresden. "The match with Brno will certainly have a great atmosphere and will be an unforgettable experience for all our fans, for whom we have prepared an exclusive pre-sale. Whoever buys a Sparta season ticket from today until 26 May can get this special match at a price," adds Vosmík.*

## **CZECH LEGENDS AGAINST THE WORLD SELECTION**

The highlight of the four-day hockey holiday will be the duel between Czech and world hockey legends. The line-ups of each team are being put together by ambassadors and former successful national team players Jakub Voracek and Patrik Elias, who will also be on the ice, and Slavomir Lener, former national team coach

*"Czech hockey has dominated the world for many years and the best teams, including Canada and the USA, have had to bow to the skill of our players. For the December game, we will try to put together a lineup that will include holders of several Stanley Cups, Olympic medals or World Championship titles. It should be a showcase of the best that Czech hockey has produced in recent years," says Lener.*

*"And believe it, this match will not lack prestige and emotion! I'm really looking forward to it. I have had the opportunity to play against a lot of great hockey players from different countries in my career - and I hope that we will be able to bring some of them to Prague," adds Jakub Voracek, one of the ambassadors of the project. During the last performance of Czech legends in the celebration of 25 years since the Olympic triumph in Nagano 1998, he stood only on the bench in the O2 Arena, and he would like to show off his equipment at Letná. "I hope my health will allow it."*

**Patrik Elias, the other ambassador, is not planning to watch the game only from the sidelines.**

*"It's always been an honour for me to wear the national jersey - and it's no different for the legends. Although many fans may not realize it, it's not exactly easy to get into such a selection either - consider all the successful Czech teams from the past. I'm looking forward to meeting the boys again and I'm sure we will show the world who is the master of Letná," says Eliáš.*

## **TICKETS FROM 390 TO 1990 CZK**

Tickets for the special hockey weekend in Prague will go on sale on April 30 at 1 p.m. through Ticketportal [www.ticketportal.cz](http://www.ticketportal.cz). Ticket prices range from CZK 390 to CZK 1,990 depending on the category (standing - seated) and individual matches. For fans in front of the TV screens, the general media partner O2 TV Sport will prepare a portion of the broadcasts.

"Outdoor matches have a specific atmosphere, we believe that we have put together an attractive programme for the spectators and the hockey players will be driven forward by a packed Letná," adds Barsony from the Eniva agency.

For the agency, this will be the severalth hockey project in December. Last year, it successfully sold out the O2 arena with a duel of Czech and Slovak legends on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Czech triumph at the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, and it also sold out the Match of Legends in Litvínov. And this year I want to "conquer" Letná.

## **WINTER HOCKEY GAMES 2024 IN PRAGUE**

### **PROGRAM**

Thursday 5 December: university hockey

Friday 6 December: Czech Tipsport extraliga HC Škoda Plzeň - Baner Motor Č. Budějovice

Saturday 7 December: Slovak Tipos extraliga + Czech Tipsport extraliga HC Sparta Praha - HC Kometa Brno

Sunday, December 8: Clash of the Legends Czech Republic vs.

### **TICKETS**

Standing room and gates: 390 to 990 CZK (depending on the match)  
490 to 1990 CZK (depending on the match)

### **INFORMATION**

Website: [www.winterhockeygames.com](http://www.winterhockeygames.com) Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/winterhockeygameszapaslegend> Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/zapas.legend/>

Media contact Miloš Židík  
Mail: [zidik@higherflower.com](mailto:zidik@higherflower.com)  
Mobile: 734 283 820