The European Championships start in 100 days

The security concept is in place, meals have ordered, the training venues in Ebersbach, Ostritz and Zittau are ready. Yet there is still much to be done before the start.


More than 4000 athletes from over 44 countries are expected in Zittau between August 15 and 26, 2012. They will be accompanied by their trainers, relatives and friends. The city is preparing itself for the 18th European Veterans Athletic Championships together with Bogatynia/Zgorzelec in Poland and Hradek in the Czech Republic. The majority of the competitions are being held in the Weinau. At Lasem, the organisational office in Zittau, the hot phase of contract signing with partners is starting. A huge logistics effort is necessary. The SZ (Sächsische Zeitung) spoke with manager of the Local Organisation Office, Birgit Weber and her co-worker, Rica Wittig.

⇒ Five additional shuttle service routes

There are two central parking lots behind the Weinau along the B178, which as not yet been opened to traffic. A shuttle bus will travel to and from both parking lots and the Weinau. Three additional routes between the train station, Großschönau-Waltersdorf, Zgorzelec, Hradek and the Weinau have been implemented.

⇒ Attractive training venue with room for RVs

The Westpark Stadium in Zittau is available as a training venue. The sports grounds in Ostritz and Ebersbach-Neugersdorf are also available for the pitchers. The latter could be particularly beneficial to some athletes, since there is room for RVs.

⇒ Police and security are in place

Saxony’s police riding team will be implementing two horses and riders for the European Championships. They will be accommodated in Schönau-Berzdorf. The riders will lead the entry procession of the athletes at the opening ceremony on the market in Zittau. Police and the city’s administration will ensure adequate road closures. During the marathon through the three host countries on August 25, the Friedensstraße at the Zittau border crossing will be completely closed off. Chopinstraße will only be open for traffic to Poland on this day. The crossing at Seifhennersdorf is open for those wanting to go to Bohemia. The city’s security services are responsible for safety on and near the venues in Zittau. It has 18 people in its services at peak times and is responsible for the night watch at the sporting venues in Weinau, controlling admissions at the stadium, as well as checking people and cars.

⇒ Retired doctors will be on duty

Contractual negotiations with an ambulance service are almost complete. Each country will be responsible for its own competitions. For each of the three event venues, four teams, covering two shifts per day, and consisting of two people are on
duty. They are responsible for first aid. A doctor at the stadium will be available to support them on a daily basis. This service is provided by practicing physicians as well as retired doctors. If necessary, additional medical treatment will ensue at the clinic. This agreement was reached with the senior physician of the first-aid post yesterday.

Local catering company to take care of meals

It is a catering company that has experience with large events from the District of Zittau. Contractual negotiations have almost been finalised.

Bildunterschriften:

Rica Wittig (l) and Birgit Weber from the Lasem Organisation Office are in a good spirits, since the EC in Zittau will be a highlight.