

# **CITY OF NIS HELPS WITH THE ORGANISATION OF INTERNATIONAL GO TOURNAMENT**

On the occasion of the International Go Tournament NIS OPEN 2017 to be held on March 18th and 19th March in Nis honorary organizing committee met today at Nis City Hall. This tournament will mark 45 years since the founding of the first Go Club in Nis. The tournament will bring together more than 100 go masters in different categories and from several European countries. Nis City Council Member Branislav Kacar said on this occasion that City of Nis supported sports clubs and events that bring together participants from the country and from abroad.

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# **MAYOR ATTENDED THE DRAW FOR DAVIS CUP MATCHES BETWEEN SERBIAN AND RUSSIAN TEAMS**

Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic attended the draw for the matches of the Davis Cup between Serbian and Russian teams which would take place in the Sports Hall Cair in Nis from February 3<sup>rd</sup> to February 5<sup>th</sup>. On this occasion the Mayor welcomed the two teams with the words that Nis was the city of sports and that he hoped that the city authorities met the

expectations of the selections of Serbia and Russia and proved to be a good host. He said that there was a huge interest in the matches as evidenced by the packed Sports Hall Cair at training that Serbian team had the day before. Mayor Bulatovic added that he expected the atmosphere in Sports Hall Cair during the three days of competition to be great and that the fans would give an extra energy to tennis players. "I would like to wish success and good luck to both teams. Let the better ones win," said the Mayor.

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## **MANAGEMENT OF THE CITY WELCOMES PRESIDENT OF SERBIAN TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic and his associates met with the President of the Tennis Association of Serbia Mirko Petrovic to discuss further cooperation between the association and the city. On this occasion Petrovic thanked the City for its efforts in organizing Davis Cup matches between Serbian and Russian teams. He said that Nis was an exceptional host to Serbian tennis players who liked to play before the Nis audience and that he was confident that the atmosphere would be great. Mayor Bulatovic said on this occasion that an important sporting events as this one was contributed to further promotion of the sports in Nis which always was the city of sports and that he was sure that in the coming period Nis could be the host again to the best tennis players of Serbia. Petrovic, who is also CEO of Dunav Insurance Company and Mayor Bulatovic talked about other forms of cooperation.

Petrović has promised to support the City of Nis in organizing events in the field of culture, science and others.

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## **RADIVOJ KORAC CUP IN NIS**

The 2017 Radivoj Korać Cup season is the 15th season of the Serbian national basketball cup tournament. The final tournament will be held in Nis from February 16 to February 19.

On this occasion, the Letter of Intent on further cooperation was signed between the City of Nis and Serbian Basketball Federation at Nis City Hall. Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic said that he hoped that the tournament, like in the previous years, would attract a large number of basketball fans, not only from our city, but from all over Serbia. He also pointed out that he expected the organization to be on the highest level and that Nis would be a good host this time.

Predrag Danilovic, the President of the Serbian Basketball Federation, emphasized that it was prestigious to play at Radivoj Korac Cup and that this has been a favorite basketball tournament for basketball players for many years. He expects the atmosphere in the Cair Sports Hall to be on an enviable level. "Nis is a basketball city and organizing such tournaments is a real opportunity for further development and affirmation of basketball," he said.

For the first time, Mini Cup for pioneers will be held within the Cup of Radivoj Korac.

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# FINANCING SPORTS PROGRAMMES IN LOCAL-SELF GOVERNMENTS

December 16<sup>th</sup>

The public debate was held on the financing of sports programs in local self-government units attended by RS Sports Minister Vanja Udovicic and Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic. "Serbian top athletes began their sporting career in small clubs, school halls or open terrain in local self-government units. Today, these sports clubs are facing a problem that is reflected in the lack of financial resources, reliable work and development, on the one hand, and the lack of, or inadequate sports infrastructure, on the other. Local level sports organizations have limited resources, and often have a very narrow base for income, so that their sustainable funding is a functional priority," said Mayor Bulatovic in his introduction speech to the debate adding that the City of Nis, given the new law on sports and rules on club financing, decided to fund clubs through projects. This means sports clubs are assisted through the financing of their projects which are evaluated by Commission for Sports formed by the City of Nis comprised of renowned, winner of sports prizes, professors, selectors of national teams or, in a word, representatives of all relevant sports factors in the city, who therefore have a high level of expertise and objectivity in assessing submitted projects.

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# RECEPTION FOR GOLD WOMEN BASKETBALL TEAM AT NIS CITY HALL

November 22<sup>nd</sup>

The women's basketball team of Serbia arrived today in Nis, where they would play the decisive match for the first place in the qualifying group for the European Championship 2017 on Wednesday, at 6:00 pm. Our basketball players, upon their arrival from Belgrade, met with Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic at Nis City Hall. Mayor Bulatovic welcomed the basketball players and thanked them for playing in Nis. "I will use the opportunity to invite all the Nis citizens to come to Sports Hall Cair and help our team to achieve the goal that our national team set and help them win for Serbia." The national team coach Marina Maljkovic thanked for a nice reception and said: "I am truly that we are in a city that loves basketball. Nis was a great organizer in men's and women's basketball in the last few years. We are especially pleased to bring gold from the European Championship, which is new when the women's basketball is at stake and the richest thing we have – the bronze from the biggest sporting competition, Olympic Games. I would like to thank the Mayor for the warm reception. Tomorrow's match is a very important for us, it will be very difficult. We will try to win, but I appeal to all Nis citizens to support us in the right way tomorrow, and I know that you can do it. I repeat, it will be a very difficult game, so we will really need the energy from the stands. I am sure that we are in the best place in Serbia when the support and understanding of basketball is in question," said Maljkovic.

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# HEINEKEN COMPANY DONATED MILLION DINARS TO THE SPORTS SHOOTING CLUB NIS 1881

November 10<sup>th</sup>

The Olympic Committee of Serbia and Zaječarska Brewery decided to donate Sports Shooting Club Nis 1881, which is one of the most successful Nis sports clubs. On behalf of the club, the donation was received by a well-known representative in shooting and a winner of numerous medals at World, European and Balkan competitions, Lidija Mihajlović. She thanked the donor and the Olympic Committee of Serbia for assessing that this money would be used best by the Nis shooting club and added that it would be used for the purchase of electronic targets. Thus the quality of training will be improved. Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic said that it was very important that there were socially responsible companies that, with their donations, help not only sports clubs, but also the City of Nis. He added that the Shooting Club Nis 1881, for more than 100 years of existence, successfully represented Nis at the most prestigious European and world competitions. "Our celebrated representative in shooting gun rifle and the winner of many European, world and Balkan medals, Olympic Games participant, Lidija Mihajlovic is the ambassador of sports not only of our city, but also of Serbia. In one word, her results, but also the results achieved by other competitors of this club, have attracted and attract a great number of young people to train this sport", said the Mayor, adding that the local self-government, in turn, will try to help secure quality training conditions as this is a prerequisite for

achieving good results.

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## **RECEPTION FOR YOUNG TENNIS PLAYER**

November 3<sup>rd</sup>

Nis City Council Member for Sports Branislava Kacar met today at Nis City Hall with Teodora Ristic, young tennis player from Nis, who won International Tournament for the players up to 18 years of age held in Budapest. Mr. Kacar congratulated Teodora on the won title and emphasized that the City, in accordance with its possibilities, would provide support to all young and talented athletes to properly represent Nis. Teodora is a member of Tennis Academy Zivkovic, which has produced many talented athletes and traditionally brings high-quality tennis players to Nis within international futures tournament.

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## **RECEPTION FOR THE CHAMPIONS IN POWER LIFTING**

October 25<sup>th</sup>

Nis City Council Member for Sports Branislav Kacar met today with the double European and triple State Champion in the power lifting in the category up to 75 kilograms Ivan

Stankovic and World and Balkan Champion in the teenage T2 category Nikola Stankovic. The city officials and young sportsmen discussed work and successes of the power lifting team from Nis, as well as the ways to further assist the development of competitors who achieve remarkable results on the international scene. Power lifting is a popular weightlifting discipline, and Ivan Stankovic is also the world record holder in the squad discipline in his category. Over the next year, these competitors will have new challenges such as the World Cup in Sarajevo and the Balkan Cup.

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## **RECEPTION FOR YOUNG KICKBOXERS**

September 9<sup>th</sup>

Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic and Nis City Council Member for Sports Branislav Kacar met today with the young kickboxers Danilo Ratkic, Stefan Paunovic and Nikola Lazarevic, the members of the Kickboxing Club Nis who won the medals in the finals of the world junior championship in Ireland. The current World and European junior champion up to 67 kilograms Danilo Ratkic won the silver medal and silver medal was also won by the European Champion up to 75 kilograms Stefan Paunovic. Nikola Lazarevic won the fight against Kupijaj Mateuza from Poland in the finals of 57-kilogram category and became the world junior champion in this category. Mayor Bulatovic thanked the young men from this club for a successful presentation of the country and the city and wished them a lot of success in sports career. The reception was attended by the Serbian national team and Kickboxing Club Nis Srdjan Radulovic and the president of the club Oliver

Paunovic.