

Press Release

2011 IIHF World Championship, Slovakia

Košice traffic plan includes free parking

Only drivers with WM-tickets will have access to the Steel Arena during the 2011 IIHF World Championship.

Only drivers with hockey tickets will have access to the Košice Steel Arena during 2011 IIHF World Championship games (29.4. – 15.5.2011). Parking will be provided in the new 500 capacity multi-story car park. A further 1500 free parking places are to be provided in car parks adjacent to shopping centres. The City Hall advises visitors to either walk to the venue or use public transport.

With the exception of two days, two games are to be played each day in both championship cities – the first at 16:15, the second at 20:15. The roads around the stadiums will be closed to the general public for at least the whole afternoon on game days. Only public transport, local inhabitants with temporary residential passes and drivers with game tickets will have access to these areas during the stipulated times. The new multi-story car park will be reserved for Steel Arena visitors with tickets for specific games and will be free of charge.

During games both lanes on Štúrova street will be closed, as will the entire section from the Štúrova – Dunajská crossroads through to the Štúrova – Žižkova crossroads. The section of Toryska street between the Idnaska and Štúrova crossroads will also be closed. All cars will be redirected from Štúrova to Idanska.

“The borders of the sealed off zones will be monitored by designated people. Only drivers with game tickets will be allowed into the Steel Arena and car park” explained Otto Brixi, city rep for the championship. Brixi guarantees that stadium visitors will not have access to Jánošíkova street, only residents with special passes will have access.

Brixi said that access to the multi-story car part would only be provided from the northern section via the only route connecting to Štúrova, opposite the slope around the Toryská-Štúrova crossroads . Fluid access to the car park is to be provided by control measures and the exclusion of other private transport from Štúrova during games. *"The car park will be officially approved in advance before the championship,"* said the representative.

Košice city has prepared additional parking facilities for the championship in shopping centres such as Galéria, Cassovia, Optima, Hornbach, Baumax, Kaufland and administrative buildings such as Cassovar and VSH. *"In addition to the car park there is a further total of approximately 1500 parking spaces. In shopping malls to which roadside traffic-board navigation system will direct drivers to designated places for World Championship visitors. We will be adding more public transport to the Steel Arena from these point where we will set up bus stops directly in front of the stadium."* stated Brixi, who asks Steel Arena visitors to use cars as little as possible.

Bratislava, 2nd March 2011